

Labour puts Stalker case to experts

Attack on Executive 'manipulation of law'

By Richard Ford and Philip Webster

The Labour Party last night launched an investigation into what it called the Government's "general manipulation of the law" in a widening of its attack over the Stalker affair.

The move was announced by Mr Roy Hattersley after the Government ruled out prosecuting Mr John Stalker under the Official Secrets Act for revealing details of M15 and Royal Ulster Constabulary surveillance operations in Northern Ireland.

Mr Hattersley, the Shadow Home Secretary, said that the party was convening a committee of constitutional and legal experts to look at the way the Royal Prerogative was

being misused by the Government.

The inquiry will take place over the next three weeks in a Labour policy committee chaired by Mr Hattersley and his Shadow Cabinet colleague, Miss Jo Richardson. It

A planned meeting at the EEC summit in Brussels between Mrs Margaret Thatcher and Mr Charles Haughey, the Irish Prime Minister, failed to materialise because of other pressures. The two leaders meet today. Diplomats said Mrs Thatcher would face some "hard questions" from Mr Haughey about the Stalker affair.

Parliament will put aside its review work while the investigation goes ahead.

In another move, Labour is to exploit the Government's discomfort over the Stalker-Sampson inquiry by staging a Commons debate in its own time if ministers refuse to grant one.

Mr Hattersley said last night: "The idea that the Royal Prerogative can be used by the Executive to place the Executive above the law is profoundly authoritarian and anti-democratic."

He declined to name the experts who would serve on the committee. "It is simply not enough to protest. This authoritarian government will not respond to our protests. We have to have a calculated and concerted scheme to make sure that no government can act in this way."

Mrs Margaret Thatcher, he said, was under growing pressure from heads of government over the Stalker case and there was evidence that this was now developing in the United States.

Ministers yesterday also rejected Labour demands for a full judicial inquiry into allegations that the RUC operated a "shoot to kill" policy during 1982 in which five unarmed terrorists and a nationalist youth were killed.

As Mrs Thatcher prepared for a meeting in Brussels with Mr Charles Haughey, the Irish Republic's Prime Minister, the Attorney General made the announcement that Mr Stalker would not be prosecuted over his book, entitled *Stalker*.

In a Commons written reply, Sir Patrick Mayhew said: "I have concluded that a prosecution would not be in conformity with the Code for

Crown Prosecutors issued pursuant to the Prosecution of Offences Act 1985."

The code lays down guidelines to assist prosecutors in deciding whether or not to bring proceedings and includes criteria such as the sufficiency of evidence and public interest.

A spokesman for the Crown Prosecution Service refused to say under what criteria the decision had been taken but it is clear that officials would have taken into account the public interest as occurred in the decision not to prosecute RUC officers against whom the Stalker-Sampson inquiry found evidence to conspire or pervert the course of justice.

The decision is certain to be criticized by Opposition MPs who contrasted it with the Government's action in the *Spycatcher* affair. Mr Neil Kinnock has said that a failure to prosecute Mr Stalker would be a "stake through the heart" of the Official Secrets Act.

But the Government could still bring civil action in the courts against Mr Stalker.

Mr Hattersley, the deputy Labour leader, yesterday demanded a full judicial inquiry into the allegations of a "shoot to kill" policy because of growing concern in the country and among Britain's allies.

Mr John Wakeham, Leader of the House, who was deputizing for the Prime Minister at Question Time, turned down his request.

He told MPs: "The matter has been the subject of a very thorough and detailed investigation. A further inquiry would be both unnecessary and inappropriate."

Mr Hattersley said the Government's answer damaged the prospects for lasting peace in Northern Ireland. "How can the Government hope to establish the rule of law in Northern Ireland if it manipulates the law itself?"

Next week it is expected that Mr Tom King, the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, will tell the Commons that changes will be made in the management and control of the RUC as a result of a report by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary.

Mr Stalker heard of the Government's decision to prosecute him as he returned to Manchester yesterday to sign copies of his autobiography at a bookshop.

"I believe this book is a fair account when read in its entirety and I hope that this is now the beginning of the healing process in the Anglo-Irish Agreement."

Eight more 'insider' inquiries on the way

By Cliff Feltham and Lawrence Lever

The Government is poised to launch a fresh wave of investigations into insider dealing. It is expected to involve more prominent figures in the City.

Eight more suspected cases of insider dealing are being examined by Department of Trade and Industry officials, and inspectors could be appointed any day. The City is braced for further shocks as the Government, armed with tough new legal powers, attempts to stamp out illegal share dealing.

A DTI investigation into alleged insider dealings in Peachey Property shares which named property tycoon Mr John Ritblat, head of the British Land company, was

announced this week. Mr Ritblat has strenuously denied any illegal dealings and is furious at the way the DTI announced the investigation. In addition to the eight cases which are under consideration, the Department has appointed inspectors to look into 14 alleged cases of insider dealing. However, only five have been made public.

These involve the passing of confidential information concerning Monopolies and Mergers inquiries; Unigroup, a timber and clothing business; Grand Central Investments Holdings, a food company; and Shield Group, a residential property developer, and the current inquiry into Peachey shares. Extradition charge, page 21

Thatcher prepared for tough EEC farm battle



Mrs Thatcher making an intense study of papers at the EEC Brussels summit yesterday.

Subsidy reform hopes remain 'in the balance'

From Richard Owen, Brussels

Britain remained deeply divided from France and West Germany last night over farm subsidies at the EEC special summit here on the European cash crisis, and diplomats admitted that the outcome today was "very much in the balance".

But at least the first glimmerings of a deal on part of a Community budget reform package began to emerge as the UK and Spain moved towards a compromise on the contentious issue of regional and social aid for the poorer southern nations.

Diplomats said that M Chirac, the French Prime Minister, was taking a hard line over agriculture, partly because Bonn could not do so as Chancellor Helmut Kohl was in the chair, and partly to impress French voters in April's presidential election. "Chirac is electioneering," one official charged.

Chancellor Kohl said there was "a real chance for a positive outcome". But officials said that the reform package would stand or fall as a whole. Mrs Thatcher said that the negotiations, which follow failure to agree on measures at Brussels last June and Copenhagen in December, were proving "very, very difficult".

Diplomats said after a meeting between the Prime Minister and her Spanish counterpart, Señor Felipe Gonzalez, that there was enough "common ground" for Mrs Thatcher to go to Madrid later this year.

Relations between the countries improved towards the end of last year after a diplomatic compromise was

reached over the status of Gibraltar Airport allowing an EEC deal on cheaper air fares to go ahead. Officials said the Anglo-Spanish relationship could prove crucial to the current Summit.

Sources said Señor Gonzalez had softened his previous demand for a doubling by 1992 of the "structural funds" which channel EEC aid to backward regions and depressed areas. He agreed with Mrs Thatcher that, if Britain and other northern nations contributed more to regional aid, Spain would back the British demand for rigorous and binding cuts in farm spending.

EEC Commission sources said that a possible solution involved an overall increase in the structural funds of between 60 and 70 per cent by 1992, with a doubling of resources concentrated on the very poorest regions. Almost all of Spain and Portugal would qualify for a doubling of aid. Mr Andreas Papanastasiou, the Greek Prime Minister, echoed Señor Gonzalez in calling for "flexibility".

But there was still no agreement yesterday over the future level of farm spending, which Britain insists must be pegged at £19 billion a year, excluding the cost of disposing of existing food mountains. A move by the southern countries to support Britain would ease the difficulty, but France and West Germany are still arguing for a higher figure.

Chancellor Kohl appealed to his fellow leaders to bear in mind that Europe was heading for an internal market without frontiers by 1992, and said

Continued on page 20, col 7

Campaign for flexible pay in the public sector

By Robin Oakley, Political Editor

The Government has embarked upon a drive to introduce greater flexibility to public sector pay, especially the rates paid by local government.

Alarmed at the inflationary consequences of nationally negotiated pay deals, which have already forced the Chancellor to raise interest rates, ministers are trying to encourage the settlement of more pay deals on a regional and local basis.

However, trade union leaders see the drive as the next wave in the Government's bid to reduce the power of unions, much of which rests on their role in securing national deals.

Ministers believe the private sector has responded effectively to regional variations in demand and in living costs, but say unions have prevented the same development in the public sector.

They are pushing for more pay settlements to be done at local level as a means of breaking up the rigidity of nationally negotiated wage

agreements. But as part of the deal, ministers are prepared to encourage higher payments for those with special skills or those working in areas where difficulty in attracting staff to London and the Home Counties, with high housing costs, has also led ministers to consider introducing salary differentials for teachers. In particular, they are worried that the implementation of the new national core curriculum may be handicapped if more teachers in mathematics, science and languages cannot be enticed to some areas. The teaching unions, however, are seeking across-the-board increases.

The Government is particularly alarmed at the national pay deals covering local government workers, but has no powers to intervene in the voluntary arrangements between local authority associations and unions.

Ministers believe the measures they are introducing to force councils to seek outside tenders for various aspects of their work, such as refuse collection, street cleaning and vehicle maintenance, will create sufficient pressure to break down the rigidity of nationally-determined pay levels.

Nurses' pay

Leading article..... 13

staff are difficult to attract and retain.

In the private sector, they are trying to encourage more profit-related pay schemes, and in the public sector they are seeking to introduce more financial management initiatives and performance-related structures.

Extra rewards for computer personnel, lawyers and accountants in the Civil Service are likely.

The new drive is reflected in the Government's evidence to the nurses' pay review body. While it argued for cost-of-living increases of no more than 3 per cent, the Government called for special payments for intensive care and theatre nurses, plus considerable regional differentials.

Poll shows Dole cuts Bush lead

By Our Foreign Staff

Vice-President George Bush has lost his formerly strong lead over other Republican contestants in the New Hampshire Primary election. A poll published yesterday showed him only two points ahead of Senator Robert Dole.

Only a week ago, Mr Bush enjoyed a 20-point lead. While Senator Dole, who beat him into third place in Iowa this week, has gone on the offensive on issues ranging from the Strategic Defence Initiative to Nicaragua, the Vice-President is still bogged down by the Iran-Contra affair.

In one campaign interview, Mr Bush admitted that he had not disclosed everything he knew.

He said that he was not going to do so as he believed his talks with President Reagan should remain confidential.

Bush rattled, page 7

Car telephone taps legal, judge says

By Tony Dawe

Calls made on car and portable telephones, most of which are used by businessmen, can be legally "tapped", it emerged during a court case yesterday.

Mr Michael Anderson, a security consultant, was jailed at Luton Crown Court for intercepting ordinary telephone calls made in connection with City takeovers.

But in the course of his summing up, Judge David Rodwell said that the tapping of car telephones did not appear to be covered by an Act of Parliament.

His ruling surprised the Home Office, which said: "It was thought that the interception of Communications Act, under which it is an offence to intentionally intercept a call by a public telecommunications system, covered car phones. But this is the first time it has been tested in law

and we will need to study the judgment carefully."

The court heard that British Telecom's Cellnet division, one of the two operators of cellular radio networks, was so worried by the risk of bugging that it had called in Mr Anderson to investigate the availability of rogue monitoring equipment. This investigation was not connected to the charge dealt with yesterday.

Cellnet and its rival, Vodaphone, have more than 150,000 subscribers, the highest total in any European country.

An engineer with Wavetech Ltd of east London said: "If you know what cell the caller is in and which channel that cell uses, it is not difficult with the right equipment to track his calls as each channel has only 30 different frequencies."

Court hearing, page 3

Physicist is found stabbed to death

By David Sapsted

One of Britain's leading nuclear physicists, Dr Colin Fisher, was found stabbed to death at the home of a female colleague near the United Kingdom Atomic Research Centre at Harwell, Oxfordshire, yesterday.

Thames Valley detectives believe Dr Fisher, aged 51, who was internationally renowned for his work on nuclear "bubble chambers", had a long-standing relationship with a fellow scientist, divorcee Mrs Georgina Stuart, at whose home in High Street, Harwell, his body was found in a pool of blood.

Mrs Stuart, aged 50, was under arrest at the John Radcliffe Hospital, Oxford,

last night although no charges had been made. Thames Valley police said. Detectives were waiting to interview her once she recovers from a suspected drugs overdose. Her condition was not serious.

Dr Fisher, who was married with a son and lived in the village of Faringdon about 12 miles from Harwell, worked at Rutherford Laboratories in Chilton, near Didcot, for more than 20 years.

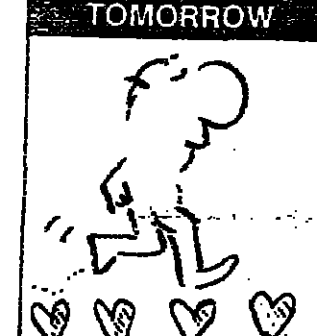
Rutherford director, Dr Paul Williams, described his colleague as "most respected" and added that he had had a distinguished career in nuclear research. "Dr Fisher was a

Continued on page 20, col

WIN £44,000

There is £44,000 to be won in today's Portfolio Accumulator, plus the £4,000 daily prize. (Yesterday's winner, page 3).

TOMORROW



Three pages of hearts' desires with The Times Valentine messages

IN PART 2

Beer fears

Brewers fear the Chancellor will put 2p on the price of a pint when he presents his Budget next month. Page 23

Bank criticism

Mr Robin Leigh-Pemberton, the Governor of the Bank of England, has surprised stockbrokers by suggesting scrapping the Stock Exchange's fortnightly dealing accounts. Page 21

Royal election

The Princess Royal was among five new members elected in Calgary yesterday to the International Olympic Committee. She replaces Lord Luke who is retiring. Her election found detractors in the British camp. Page 34

Clough denied

The Nottingham Forest board has refused Brian Clough, the club's manager, permission to become the part-time manager of the Welsh national team. Page 34

THE TIMES

The price of The Times will rise to 30p on Monday due to increasing costs, particularly of newsprint.

INDEX

Home News	23, 56
Overseas	7-10
Business	21-26
Sport	30-34
Arts	16
Births, deaths, marriages	15
Business to business	27
City Diary	14
Court	11-20
Crosswords	11-20
Diary	10
Entertainments	18
Features	11, 12, 17
Information	16
Law Report	13
Leading articles	13
Letters	29
Motoring	14
Obituary	14
Parliament	4
Saturn	3
Snow Reports	33
TV & Radio	19
Universities	20
Weather	20

Memories evoke horror of Waldheim war zone

From Robert Fisk, Belgrade

Mrs Mika Knezevic represents the other side of the Waldheim story. The two have never set eyes on each other — not so far as Mrs Knezevic knows — but like the Austrian President she can not remember everything that happened in 1942.

In her case, however, it is neither convenience nor the passage of time that has produced forgetfulness; in her nightmares, she still screams about fire and holds herself curled up in fear in her grandfather's arms. She is frightened of trains. For Mrs Knezevic is one of the children of Kozara.

Almost everyone in Yugoslavia knows about the children of Kozara even though many of the survivors do not know who they really are.

Deported from their mountain homes by the Nazis, they died in hundreds in the railway cattle wagons between Sava Gradiska and Zagreb, many so hungry that they ate the cardboard tags around their necks that carried their names and ages; they simply consumed their entire family history, swallowed their own identities before their train steamed into Zagreb station in July 1942.

Mrs Knezevic was among the survivors, although she only discovered this eight years ago when she was already married in Belgrade with a grown-up son. Yet her personal sense of suffering and loss makes her choke on her words even today when she tells the story of her identities and when she considers — as she has done

often these past few days — what she thinks of Dr Waldheim.

Mrs Knezevic is a bright, round woman with bleached blonde hair that helps to hide her 48 years: she was for two years old in July 1942 when the Germans and their Croatian Ustaša allies arrived in her little Serbian orthodox village of Bosanska Dubica on the side of the Kozara mountains. Dr Waldheim was then acting as an intelligence officer nine miles down the road in Kostanjica and it was his German army group which supervised deportation from the area of 23,000 children, at least 11,000 of whom were to be murdered or to die of starvation.

What she now knows — but still does not remember — is that the Germans and the Ustaša ordered all

the Serbian villagers to leave their homes, killing anyone who could not walk quickly. Mrs Knezevic's grandmother was executed — she had her throat cut in front of her family — for this reason. Again, Mrs Knezevic has no memory of this, just a recurring nightmare about burning houses.

Mika Burdalo, as she then was, left the village with her mother, three sisters and baby brother. Her father was sent to Zemun concentration camp where he died a year later. Her grandfather was shot in the face by an Ustaša guard for daring to seek permission to find food for the children. And at a transit camp at Ceroljani, two-year-old Mika, her three sisters and brother were taken from their mother and loaded onto lorries.

Continued on Page 20, col 4

YAMAHA GRAND MASTERS SINCE 1900

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NEWS ROUNDUP

Soccer fans held in police swoop

Nine men were charged last night after police arrested 22 people in the biggest operation mounted by Greater Manchester police to combat football hooliganism.

Operation Omega began at dawn when more than 100 officers raided homes in Greater Manchester and Lancashire and seized body-armor, flick-knives, hammers and coshes. They also took possession of "calling cards" saying "You have just been done by..." which are left with victims.

One man was arrested as he was boarding a charter flight to Israel where England are due to play on Wednesday.

Police have been investigating membership of two groups of Manchester City supporters, "The Guvvies" and the "Young Guvvies". For the past six months detectives have mingled with the gangs at both home and away matches.

Surveillance cameras at the Manchester City ground have also been used in the operation, which has been welcomed by football club directors.

Forests 'dying'

Acid rain is causing more damage to trees in Britain than anywhere else in Western Europe, according to a report published today by Greenpeace, the environmental pressure group.

The report says that oak and beech trees suffer more damage than elsewhere in Europe and conifers are as severely damaged as those on the Continent.

Greenpeace said: "Acid rain is so low on the Government's political agenda that it has fallen off the table. Meanwhile, our forests are dying."

Lawyers to sue DPP

Lawyers working for the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) are to press ahead with their legal action against the Director of Public Prosecutions, Mr Allan Green, QC, after the CPS management yesterday said it would carry on using unqualified clerks for screening cases before trial.

The hardening of attitudes in the dispute came after talks on Wednesday between the CPS management and the lawyers' union, the First Division Association, ended in deadlock.

The CPS says the use of clerks for minor case vetting releases lawyers for more important work but the lawyers say this is in breach of the Prosecution of Offences Act 1985.

Salvador dog saved Duchess negligent

An RAF helicopter yesterday rescued Loch, the border collie which won a gold medal for rescue work in El Salvador after the earthquake there. The animal went missing four days ago in a blizzard on Helvellyn in the Lake District while searching for a missing walker. The crew took her handler, Sergeant David Riley of Cumbria Police, to collect her. Mr David Brown, secretary of the Search and Rescue Dog Association in England, said: "At first she was very wary. When she realized who it was she went wild and licked him all over."

Tourists' gun guard

British travel operators last night welcomed the announcement that more tourist police are planned for the most popular holiday spots on Ibiza, Mallorca and Minorca this summer.

Mr Eduard Gamero, tourism director for the Balearic Islands, said in London yesterday that up to 30 linguists with police training, in distinctive uniforms, will patrol bars and beaches in a pilot scheme designed to control rowdy young holiday-makers.

"They will be able to carry small guns," he said.

Union puts £6m aside for 12-week Ford strike

By Daniel Ward and Roland Knud

The biggest union involved in the five day old Ford strike has set aside £6 million to back picketing workers for at least 12 weeks.

Mr Ron Todd, general secretary of the Transport and General Workers Union, said this was not the limit of support and yesterday the union's finance committee reaffirmed its support for the 22,000 members on strike who are receiving a total of £500,000 a week in strike pay.

Mr Todd, union negotiator in the last big Ford strike which lasted eight weeks, said: "Unless we find a solution soon, we are in for a long and hard dispute".

When the strike has lasted eight

weeks, the union will re-examine the financial position and seek further funds.

The British strike by 32,500 workers forced the first major plant shutdown on the Continent when Ford announced last night that its Belgian plant at Genk would virtually close today.

The company will lay off 7,200 Sierra assembly line workers, because of a shortage of engine and body parts from England. Transit van production at Genk was halted on Tuesday because of a lack of components from UK plants and 2,500 workers were laid off.

The loss of production at Genk, which can produce 1,400 Sierras and 274 Transits a day, will cost Ford more than £11 million a day in revenue.

About 1,300 workers in the wheel plant, which supplies every Ford production unit on the Continent, as well as seat cover makers, will be kept on.

The company, which had earlier said that it was confident of maintaining Sierra production until the end of next week, acknowledged that the strike in Britain had had an effect much faster than it originally envisaged.

The strike has also stopped tractor production at Antwerp, resulting in the lay-off of 100 workers, and cut Escort and Orion production at Saarbrücken, West Germany.

The overall cost of the dispute to Ford through lost production of vehicles so far is £92 million at

showroom values and £300 million in stoppages before the official strike started.

By next week, including the lost production at Genk, it is estimated the overall retail loss figure will be £40 million a day.

While the company has kept silent during the first week of the dispute, details of a number of confidential documents have appeared. One, a management document revealing how the company aims radically to change shopfloor working practices, was given to the unions last summer before they prepared their present wage claim.

Mr Jimmy Airie, secretary of the joint-trade unions and senior official of the Amalgamated Engineering Union, said yesterday: "This document just confirms what the

company has been trying to do, pushing the workforce too far. We have accepted that working practices will have to change but not at the expense of the interests of the workers who have asked for a clear wage structure".

The company denied there were any revelations in the document and emphasized that the unions were given a considerable amount of confidential information so they were able to understand Ford's long term objectives.

Strike action looks likely to spread to Renault's Lorry plant at Dunstable, Bedfordshire, after yesterday's four to one rejection by the 700 workers of a 6 per cent pay offer. Shop stewards have given the company ten days to improve the offer or face a strike.

Whitehall gives details of new salary structure Nurses may get £500m package

By Jill Sherman, Social Services Correspondent

Nurses could get an extra £500 million this year, representing an average pay increase of 12 per cent, Whitehall sources said yesterday.

However, some nurses could earn more than 20 per cent extra, while others may get no rise at all apart from a cost-of-living minimum.

As nurses at more than 20 hospitals in London and the South-east prepared to take more strike action, planned for next Tuesday, and health service unions forecast widespread industrial action in the capital on March 14, DHSS officials issued details of proposed new salary structures for nurses.

They are likely to cost at least £344 million, or 8 per cent on the £4.3 billion nursing bill. Allowing hospitals to pay more where nurses or skills are short could cost an extra 2 to 4 per cent.

Health authorities have already been funded for a 4.5 per cent pay rise for nurses, or £193 million, but the Government would need to find another £307 million to pay the balance. This could either come from the Treasury's central reserve or from the non-pay element of health authority budgets, at the risk of cutting back services.

The new clinical grading structure, based on 10 grades with four points each, will mean that nurses with extra skills - for example, those with paediatric or intensive care training - will get more money. Similarly, nurses who have more experience or responsibility will also be paid extra. An enrolled nurse in her first job could theoretically get even less than she earns now (see table), although the salaries of existing nurses are likely to be protected.

In return, the Government

wants to abolish special duty payments for unsocial hours which give some nurses, in senior grades, an extra £40 a week.

Accepting that there is a critical shortage of nurses in some areas, it has suggested that in addition hospitals pay extra increments worth about 3.5 per cent each, for key staff, but that national rises should be suppressed to a cost-of-living minimum of 3 per cent. It suggests giving up to three increments for nurses in inner London and up to two supplements where there are critical shortages in particular skills.

The new structures provoked a mixed reaction from nurses yesterday.

Miss Stella Backhouse, a staff nurse at Netheredge Hospital in Sheffield, said: "The proposals do nothing to stop the crisis in the NHS. Nurses are leaving the profession faster than they are joining."

Mrs Valerie Thompson, a ward sister at St Bartholomew's Hospital in London, said the proposals were a good idea. "It's important to increase the number of well-qualified nurses in specialized areas," she said.

● The Royal College of Midwives said the Government's evidence to the nurses' pay review body was "a slap in the face for midwives".

Department of Health officials refused, in their evidence to the review body, to agree to a plea from the college for midwives to start on higher salaries than nurses.

However, after an hour of talks yesterday with Mr John Moore, Secretary of State for Social Services, Miss Ruth Ashton, general secretary of the college, said she felt she understood better the problems midwives were facing.

WHAT NURSES COULD EARN UNDER GOVERNMENT PROPOSALS

Post	Existing pay	New structure	Plus 3% cost of living increase	Two regional supplements +7%	Two skill supplements +7%
Nursing auxiliary	£4,000	£4,500	£4,730	£5,050	£5,400
Enrolled nurse	£5,250	£5,810	£6,100	£6,510	£6,920
Extra experience	£5,250	£5,810	£6,100	£6,510	£6,920
Staff nurse	£7,300	£7,930	£8,360	£8,850	£9,340
Extra skills	£7,300	£7,930	£8,360	£8,850	£9,340
Ward sister	£8,500	£9,250	£9,680	£10,170	£10,660
Extra skills	£8,500	£9,250	£9,680	£10,170	£10,660
Senior nurse in charge of more than one ward	£10,400	£11,200	£11,680	£12,250	£12,820
With extra responsibilities	£10,400	£11,200	£11,680	£12,250	£12,820

Figures based on DHSS evidence to nurses pay review body. A 3 per cent increase, and basic pay in each grade without special duty payments or London weighting.

Brittan urges direct finance

By Robin Oakley and Martin Fletcher

The health service should be financed entirely by contributions to a new national insurance scheme, with social security paid out of general taxation, Mr Leon Brittan, the former Cabinet minister, said yesterday.

These contributing to private health schemes would be allowed to opt out of the state system in a proposal to boost private health care provision and increase overall resources, Mr Brittan said.

Meanwhile, Mr Frank Field, a Labour health spokesman and chairman of the social services select committee, accused his own party of playing into the Govern-

ment's hands by protesting about the health service crisis without producing a viable solution of its own.

Mr Field, ignoring Labour's calls for increased spending, supported alternative funding methods, including the introduction of a health stamp and a national lottery.

Mr Brittan, in a pamphlet which marks an important contribution to the Government's review of NHS financing, called for the £21 billion in social security benefits currently paid to employees' National Insurance contributions to be paid out of general taxation. National Insurance contributions, in their present form, would be abolished.

The health service would then be financed by a system of National Health Service insurance contributions, set at a level to meet its full cost, less a small sum to be raised by charges.

People who belonged to an approved private health insurance scheme would be able to opt out of paying their national health insurance contributions, with partial opting out for those whose insurance cover was limited, Mr Brittan said.

"The real need of the health services is for substantially increased resources," a *New Deal for Health Care*, by Leon Brittan (Conservative Political Centre, 32 Smith Square, London SW1; £1.50).

Moore in young Tories' line of fire

Mr John Moore, Secretary of State for Social Services, will tomorrow be caught in the crossfire in an increasingly acrimonious struggle for control of the Young Conservatives.

The right-wing faction bidding to oust the left-wing leadership of the Tory youth movement accused their rivals last night of seeking to embarrass the Government about the health service.

They said that the motion criticizing charges for dental and eye check-ups chosen to open the YCs' conference in Eastbourne this weekend amounted to an "underhand attempt to denigrate" Mr Moore.

The left responded by asserting that right wingers had agreed to its selection for debate and accused them of "cheap sloganeering".

The dispute is centred on a leadership election to be held after the conference.

The gathering of 2,000 young Tories at Eastbourne last night was the scene of intense last-minute lobbying for votes. The right has been reinforced by refugees from the Federation of Conservative Students, which was disbanded by Mr Norman Tebbit, then Conservative Party chairman, a year ago.

It is backing Mr Andrew Tinnery, the chairman of the South East YCs, in his challenge to Mr Martin Woodroffe, a vice-chairman, in the contest for the chairmanship.

Today Mr Harry Phibbs, the libertarian activist behind the Macmillan allegation, will apply for a court injunction seeking to halt the election. Conservative Central Office has ruled that Mr Phibbs' Bow and Poplar branch is not a *bona fide* organization.

Seamen's leader praised as union fined £7,500

By Tim Jones

The National Union of Seamen was fined £7,500 in the High Court yesterday for failing immediately to call off the national ferry strike, while the Isle of Man Steam Packet Company, where the dispute started, said it would renew its services today with a non-union crew if talks this morning fail.

Forty of the company's dismissed ferryman held a sit-in aboard the cargo vessel Pervil, which has been moored in a "safe berth" at Birkenhead to prevent her sailing with a Dutch crew. An NUS official said: "We met

the management and they agreed they would not sail until after talks in London tomorrow".

The illegal national ferry strike, which has cost Sealink £200,000 a day, was triggered by the Isle of Man company's decision to make redundancies among its 116 crewmen.

The company said yesterday: "In view of the lack of progress up to now in solving the seamen's strike, the company was forced to make alternative arrangements to meet the needs of our customers. The Pervil is being

brought back into service, with a crew of seafarers not previously employed by the company".

In the High Court, the Sealink ferry company had asked Mr Justice Michael Davies to order sequestration of the union's £2.5 million assets for its contempt of court.

Mr Justice Davies praised Mr Sam McCuskie, the union's general secretary, for his conduct when faced with legal proceedings. Mr McCuskie had earlier made "imprudent" comments to the Press, suggesting that the

strike would continue after an injunction ordering an end to the strike was granted on February 1.

But, once told there could be no delay, he called off the strike and warned members of the consequences of staying out.

"It seems to me that the NUS is extremely fortunate, from what I have seen in this court, to have Mr McCuskie as its general secretary", the judge said.

In addition to the fine, the union also was ordered to pay the "very substantial costs" of the three-day hearing.

Miners prepare to sue for millions

British Coal said yesterday it would "vigorously defend" a multi-million pound law suit against it by the National Union of Mineworkers for wages lost because of industrial action by members of the pit deputies' union.

Mr Arthur Scargill, the NUM president, said after a meeting of his union's national executive committee in Sheffield: "It is a claim which will probably amount to one of the most substantial ever made by this union on behalf of our members, and we want

to be absolutely certain we get it right."

"We have 50,000 or 60,000 men involved and the number of shifts lost by them is colossal. We believe, and our lawyers believe, there is a very strong case, and they are now preparing a submission in the High Court."

Mr Scargill said during the miners' strike British Coal had continued to pay members of the National Association of Colliery Overmen, Deputies and Shotfirers (Nacods) al-

though there was no work for them. "If that principle can apply to one section, it can certainly apply to another."

But British Coal said: "As Mr Scargill well knows, mineworkers are not entitled to the guaranteed wage in circumstances where no work is available for them because of industrial action by another union in the industry. British Coal regrets that thousands of mineworkers have lost earnings because of the unconstitutional action taken by Nacods."

British Coal said that with Nacods having abandoned industrial action against flexible rostering in the Midlands, all but three of Britain's 102 collieries were working normally yesterday.

Sealink Ferry Company Ltd v National Union of Seamen (1988) 1 Lloyd's Rep. 200. *Sealink Ferry Company Ltd v National Union of Seamen* (1988) 1 Lloyd's Rep. 200. *Sealink Ferry Company Ltd v National Union of Seamen* (1988) 1 Lloyd's Rep. 200.

People's lives on a knife-edge

The rains have failed farmers in Ethiopia once more. People face the threat of hunger and starvation. Many could die if help doesn't reach them.

Oxfam is urgently providing emergency food to distribution centres where destitute families can collect it and return to their villages, ready to prepare their fields for harvest in October.

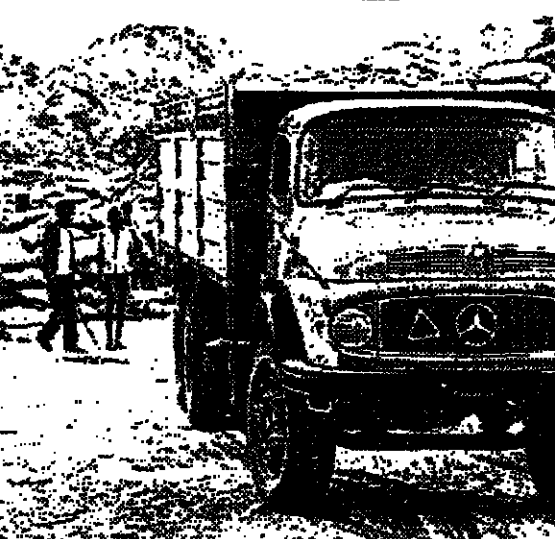
People's lives are on a knife-edge. Emergency aid is getting through, but there is a real danger that food will run out.

Just £10 from you could feed a family for one month.

Oxfam urgently needs to buy more food, seeds and tools and heavy duty trucks for Ethiopia. And emergency aid wherever the poor are victims of disaster.

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An Ethiopian farmer in his sorghum field shows his withered crop.

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Companies entitled to spy on industrial rivals, says judge

By Andrew Moger and Joe Joseph

Companies are entitled to engage in industrial espionage such as undercover surveillance work and electronic eavesdropping, a judge said yesterday.

They had a legitimate right to protect their commercial interests so long as their agents did not resort to tapping telephone lines, he said.

Judge Rodwell, QC, was speaking at the end of an unusual trial in which the court heard how Dixons, the electrical retail chain, hired a private detective to spy on former employees who had moved to a rival company, Comet.

The jury at the Luton Crown Court case, believed to be Britain's first prosecution for telephone bugging as a form of industrial espionage, was told that Dixons authorised dossiers to be produced on the private lives of a handful of former senior staff.

The Dixons' action came three months after the company failed in a bid to take over Comet, a subsidiary of Woolworth.

Dixons, the court heard, feared the former executives may have been behind leaks of sensitive commercial data and suspected they may have still associated with their former colleagues.

Judge Rodwell, jailing Michael Anderson, a former policeman and owner of a private detective agency, for unlawful interception of telephone communications, said: "The inquiries on which you were instructed were legitimate and proper and no criticism can be made of them (Anderson's customers)."

The court heard that Anderson, of Epping, Essex, who was given a 12-month sentence — nine months suspended — employed two electronics experts to train microphones on the home of Mr Peter Hopper, a former senior buying director, who had left Dixons for a similar position with Comet.

One device, an 18in-wide dish, was intended to pick up conversations within his home at Woburn, Bedfordshire, by converting the vibrations of windows.

Judge Rodwell said these could be regarded as quite proper inquiries, but when the two men connected a wire to Mr Hopper's telephone line and intercepted his calls, Anderson's spying operation overstepped the mark.

The judge said there was no evidence to suggest whether the original telephone tapping scheme had come from Anderson or Dixons.

Last night Woolworth executives expressed reservations about the judge's comments.

One top manager asked:

Mr Peter Hopper, who was in Cologne, West Germany, when the trial ended, said he was appalled at learning that his telephone had been tapped.

The device used to listen into Mr Hopper's calls was made by the standards of industrial espionage.

Companies wanting to eavesdrop on their rivals without risk of detection are well catered for, electronic surveillance experts say.

Mr Hopper's calls were intercepted using a tape recorder that switched itself on whenever the phone was used.

Such devices cost about £45, and have been around for 15 years, according to Mr Derek Pattinson of Crofton electronics in Lyonsdale, Hereford and Worcester, which deals in industrial security.

Devices costing from a few pence to £50 can be fixed permanently into a telephone line. They can be detected only by using the most sophisticated checks, Mr Pattinson said. Radio bugs powered by the current in telephone lines can monitor conversations indefinitely.

"The case still has a number of unanswered questions: for instance, did Dixons know, presume or condone Anderson's telephone tapping?"

The case, under the 1986 Interception of Communications Act, had cast light on the shadowy world of commercial spying and showed how far companies

were prepared to resort to clandestine methods to safeguard confidential data which could effect high street prices and Stock Exchange values.

Mr Hopper told the two-week trial: "I discussed on my phone... prices, the state of the market and the company's business needs."

The two men hired by Anderson told the jury they had been paid £100 every time they changed the tape in a tape recorder which had been placed in a biscuit tin outside Mr Hopper's home and connected to the telephone cables.

Inquiries by *The Times* last night revealed that Dixons paid out tens of thousands of pounds to Mr Anderson's Cornhill Management Consultants firm, based in Stratford upon Avon, over two years.

After Dixons' failed bid for Comet he was approached by the head of Dixons security, Mr Neville Causebrook, who said up to five senior staff had left the firm for the Woolworth subsidiary.

Anderson told the court: "Dixons had a major problem in September 1986. There was a leak of very, very confidential information. Attempts were made to trace the leakages."

In an attempt to find the source, Anderson said his agents spied on the new Comet directors as they stayed in first-class hotels in Hull and then in a company house in the City.

The two men Anderson hired were Mr Terry Rowe of Leigh-on-Sea, Essex, and Mr Terence Franklin Rowe, of Basildon, Essex. The latter related how both admitted the charge of conspiracy to intercept telephone calls. They are to be sentenced this morning.

The case moved from high technology to drama half way through the evidence when Anderson was arrested outside the court for possessing a shotgun which he had placed in the boot of his car.

Anderson later explained to the judge that he feared for his own safety and the security of his family.

Monroe blouse tops £7,000



Miss Kay Kent models the Monroe blouse as Miss Kerry Taylor starts the bidding (Photograph: Denzil McNeelance).

By Sarah Jane Checkland
Art Market Correspondent

A blouse which barely covered Marilyn Monroe when she starred in the 1956 film, *Bus Stop*, became the focus of a promotion exercise at Sotheby's yesterday.

Mr Patrick Mills, bidding by telephone from Hemel Hempstead, spent £7,150 on the lacey garment as part of a scheme to launch the career of his singing and dancing daughter, Chantelle, aged 16.

Sotheby's rose to the occasion during the sale, employing a blonde bombshell lookalike to model the blouse, who posed and pouted up and down the aisle as bidding progressed.

A lacey nightshirt which was reputed to have been owned by Charles I fetched £4,180 (estimate £4,000 to



Made to measure: The blouse as it appeared in *Bus Stop*.

£6,000) for Spink, the dealers. It is reputed to have been left behind by the king at Rushbrooke Hall, Suffolk, which was owned at that time by Sir Thomas Jernyn, treasurer to the king's household.

The top price of £34,100 at the toy and costume sale was paid anonymously for Britannia House, an extraordinary English wooden dolls' house, made in 1866, of Robert Adam proportions, with tiny

Chippendale chairs and modern conveniences such as full electrical wiring.

The house, described in the catalogue as an "exhibition of design in miniature", was devised by several well-known British designers to raise funds for the African Medical and Research Foundation.

A pair of monogrammed velvet slippers once worn by Cecil Beaton sold for £160 (estimate £150 to £250).

Museums were particularly active. The Northampton Museum spent £6,600 (estimate £3,000 to £4,000) on a kid leather slap-slap shoe, of about 1630. The Australian National Gallery bought a Balenciaga black sheath evening gown from the 1950s for £1,155. The Victoria and Albert Museum spent £572 on a Jean Dessès Brown evening gown.

Portfolio PLUS NEW Accumulator Third win for same family

Mr John Lowry, aged 61, of Grove Road, Cranleigh, Surrey, celebrated his family's third Portfolio success yesterday after winning £4,000 in the Portfolio Gold competition.

Mr Lowry, who recently retired after teaching geography at Cranleigh School, said his secret was perseverance.

He has already won £2,000 from a previous competition, and his wife, Margaret, also won £400 two years ago.

"I've been playing Portfolio religiously since it started. I guess I'm just lucky", he said.

Mr Lowry has four children, and the family pool their cards.

He added: "I will distribute the gains to my children. I have one grandson who is 18 months' old and as soon as he can read, I'll have him playing too."



Mr John Lowry: success through perseverance.

Trial halted

The trial at the Central Criminal Court of John Duffy, who is accused of two murders and seven rapes, was yesterday adjourned until Monday after a juror fell ill.

Sex claims are denied by vicar

A vicar accused of seducing two schoolgirl virgins and fondling a third yesterday denied that he had sexual intercourse with a girl aged 13 on a holiday island beach.

The Rev David St Clair Tudor, aged 32, told Guildford Crown Court that the girl, who claimed that later he had intercourse with her more than 100 times, was jealous of his girl friend.

He said he went to Majorca, where she was holidaying with her family, after he had gone to Paris and found it was snowing.

Earlier the court heard that he had been allowed to continue as a school chaplain for five years after admitting to the headmistress and the chairman of the governors that he had had a relationship with a pupil aged 15.

The authorities at St Bede's, Carlton Hill, Redhill, Surrey, took no action for fear of having to perform virginity tests on the girl, the court was told.

Mrs Joan Peagan, the teacher who reported Mr Tudor to the school after the girl complained of petting sessions during Bible classes, told the court the girl was very distressed.

Mr Tudor told the court that nothing sexual happened when the girl went to the vicarage in Reigate, Surrey, for Bible lessons. But he admitted he had let her become too dependent on him when she became worried about family problems. "She was upset and crying so I comforted her. I kissed her — only in the way I would kiss other people, on the cheek", he said.

The case continues.

Early retirement woman loses case

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

Companies and firms who forced women to retire at 60 but allowed men to retire at 65 before the law made this illegal do not have to pay compensation, the House of Lords ruled yesterday.

In a unanimous judgement which affects dozens of similar claims being processed, five law lords held that Mrs Peggy Duke had no claim of unlawful discrimination because her company, Reliance Systems, now part of GEC, retired her at 60.

Mrs Duke, whose case was supported by the Equal Opportunities Commission, had claimed that she was the victim of sex discrimination and was entitled to damages.

The Government has since been forced to change the law, making it illegal to have different retirement ages based on sex; that now applies

in the public and private sectors.

But when Mrs Duke initially lodged her claim, the change in the law relating to the private sector — contained in the Sex Discrimination Act 1986 — was not in force. She claimed damages on the basis of being obliged to retire earlier than she wished.

Mr Alan Lakin, the Equal Opportunities Commission legal adviser, said after the ruling: "We are very sorry for Mrs Duke and scores of other women who have now come to the end of the road with their claims."

Mrs Duke relied for her claim on the Sex Discrimination Act 1975.

She said that although the Act did not apply to "provision in relation to death or retirement", that only meant retirement benefits and not retirement ages.

Detective tells of PC's death in off-duty chase

By Mark Ellis

A police detective chased the killer of an off-duty policeman on the fatally wounded man's motor-cycle, the Central Criminal Court was told yesterday.

Sergeant Derek Wilson said he tried to flag down a motor-cyclist as he chased a suspected burglar in London, but the rider, later identified as Police Constable Stephen Tibble, aged 21, ignored the request and joined the chase.

PC Tibble stopped at Charleville Road, west London, Sgt Wilson said. "I

continued running towards the motor-cyclist, who assumed a crouching position as if to catch hold of the guy running towards him. I heard shots ring out and saw the man run off."

He chased the gunman, using PC Tibble's motor-cycle, but later lost sight of him.

William Quinn, aged 40, from San Francisco, denies murdering PC Tibble on February 26, 1975. Mr Quinn was extradited from the United States last year.

The trial continues today.

'Stupidity led to fire deaths'

By Rodney Cowtan, Transport Correspondent

The official inquiry into the King's Cross disaster was thrown into confusion yesterday when a ticket collector said that 85 per cent of those who died in the fire did so through their own stupidity.

Mr John Wood, employed by London Underground, said: "I would say that 85 per cent of the people who died that night did so through their own stupidity. If they had done what the police and firemen and other members of staff had asked them to do, there would have been very few [deaths]."

Mr Roger Henderson, QC,

counsel to the inquiry, immediately terminated his questioning. "I hear what you say, but it does not accord with the facts and in the circumstances I am not minded to ask you any more questions", he said.

Mr Henderson later said that in the absence of corroboration, Mr Wood's evidence should not be accepted. Mr Desmond Fennell, QC, chairman of the inquiry, indicated his agreement.

Mr Charles Pugh, QC, representing relatives of the 31 who died, and also those who were injured, said Mr Wood's

observation concerning 85 per cent of the victims was at variance with all other evidence and was viewed by those instructing him as "beneath contempt".

Mr Wood, who is still recovering from injuries received in the fire, said he put belts across the Piccadilly Line escalators to prevent passengers using them, but many still tried to use that route that night, he said. "I was pushed on my backside three times."

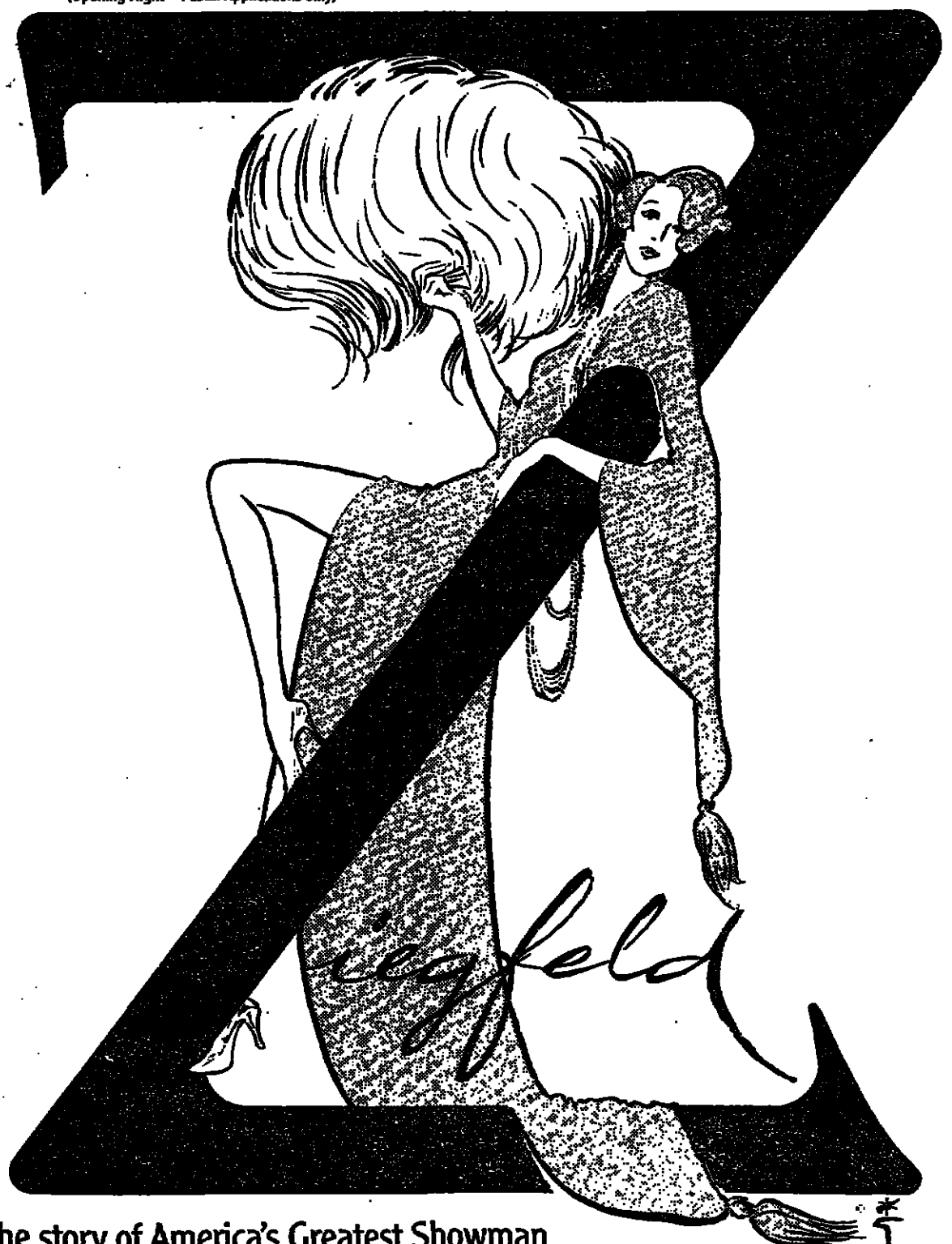
The inquiry continues today.

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Ministers refusing to answer case for inquiry, says MP

There was a case to be answered over the Stalker-Sampson inquiry in Northern Ireland and the Government had chosen not to answer it, Mr Roy Hattersley, deputy leader of the Opposition, said during question time.

He accused the Government of damaging Britain's reputation abroad and undermining the rule of law by its failure to prosecute officers of the Royal Ulster Constabulary for their part in a criminal conspiracy over an alleged shoot-to-kill policy in the province.

But he was rebuffed for his "disgraceful remarks" by Mr John Wakeham, the Lord President of the Council, and forced by the Speaker (Mr Bernard Weatherill) to withdraw a claim that Mr Wakeham was seeking to deceive.

Mr Hattersley said that there was growing concern in this country and among Britain's allies over the Government's deplorable decision not to follow the Stalker-Sampson report with appropriate prosecutions.

"It is now essential that the whole affair - shoot to kill, RUC conspiracy and Special Branch involvement - should be cleared up by a judicial inquiry."

Mr Wakeham, answering on behalf of Mrs Thatcher during her absence in Brussels, said that the Government was not prepared to set up a judicial inquiry. The whole affair had been subject to a very thorough investigation by the Director of Public Prosecutions in Northern Ireland. "A further inquiry would be unnecessary and inappropriate."

Mr Hattersley said that the reply would damage both Britain's reputation abroad and the prospects for lasting peace in Northern Ireland.

"How can the Government hope to establish the rule of law

N IRELAND

in Northern Ireland if it manipulates the law itself?

"How can it expect to end the rule of the IRA if the Government itself is prepared to allow criminal conspiracy to go ahead without taking appropriate action?"

Mr Wakeham said that Mr Hattersley's remarks were disgraceful.

"Surely, if any damage is done it is by allegations that the Director of Public Prosecutions in Northern Ireland did not act independently and properly in accordance with his duties."

Mr Hattersley: He either deludes himself or seeks to deceive others - (Conservative protests).

The Speaker (Mr Bernard Weatherill) ordered Mr Hattersley to withdraw the remark.

Mr Hattersley: I withdraw that at once. He either deceives himself or seeks to delude others (laughter).

The Attorney General (Sir Patrick Mayhew) made the position absolutely clear: that there was a case to answer, but he chose not to answer it. Mr Wakeham must defend that, not some other charge.

Mr Wakeham said that the Attorney General had made a very clear statement and had indicated the reasons why, in the national interest, he had made the decision he did.

The Secretary of State for Northern Ireland (Mr Tom King) would make a statement to the Commons - (Labour MPs: When?) - on disciplinary matters and matters of control of the RUC and Mr Hattersley would have to wait for that.

Sir John Begg-Davison (Epping Forest, C) asked whether the Prime Minister, when talking to the Taoiseach in Brussels, would tell him that the British people were only prepared to

accept the interventions of the Irish Republic in the internal affairs of the UK to the extent that he was prepared to accept British interference in the affairs of the Irish Republic.

Mr Wakeham said that he was not privy to what the Prime Minister would be saying to the Taoiseach, but he knew that she would be seeking to deal with this in the best way possible and to recognize that the Anglo-Irish accord was something that they believed to be important.

Mr Seamus Mallon (Newry and Armagh, SDLP) said that, since 1969, 166 people had been killed by the security services in Northern Ireland - people who were not members of paramilitary organizations and not involved in any violence. In those 166 cases, three convictions were obtained.

What assurance could Mr Wakeham offer the House and what plans did he have to ensure that the law would apply in Northern Ireland without fear or favour and equally to every single person?

Mr Wakeham said that he could not confirm those figures, but they might well be right. In attempting to deal with these difficult issues in Northern Ireland, some mention of the victims of terrorism would be appropriate.

Mr Martin Flannery (Sheffield, Hillsborough, Lab) said that there was a growing concern about the refusal of the Attorney General to engage in prosecutions after the killing of these unarmed people, especially the young man in the hay barn.

If there was not a general inquiry under the Tribunals of Inquiry Act, 1971, this would grow and grow, not go away, and it would sour relations with the republic.

Mr Wakeham said that the decision not to prosecute had been made by the Director of Public Prosecutions, not by the Attorney General.

Poverty study inaccurate

A study which had suggested that the rich were becoming richer and the poor poorer under the present Chancellor's regime was based on inaccurate data, and the Policy Studies Institute will be told so, Mr Nigel Lawson, Chancellor of the Exchequer, said.

He added that real disposable income had risen by 13 per cent since 1983.

Mr Thomas Clarke (Monklands West, Lab) had said that the Policy Studies Institute had produced figures suggesting

that, under Mr Lawson, the rich had become richer and the poor poorer.

He called for a strategy against poverty, beginning with the ending of the notorious Social Fund, which the Government was determined to introduce in April.

Mr Lawson said that the PSI study had been based on inaccurate data, and the Treasury was writing to the Institute to tell it so.

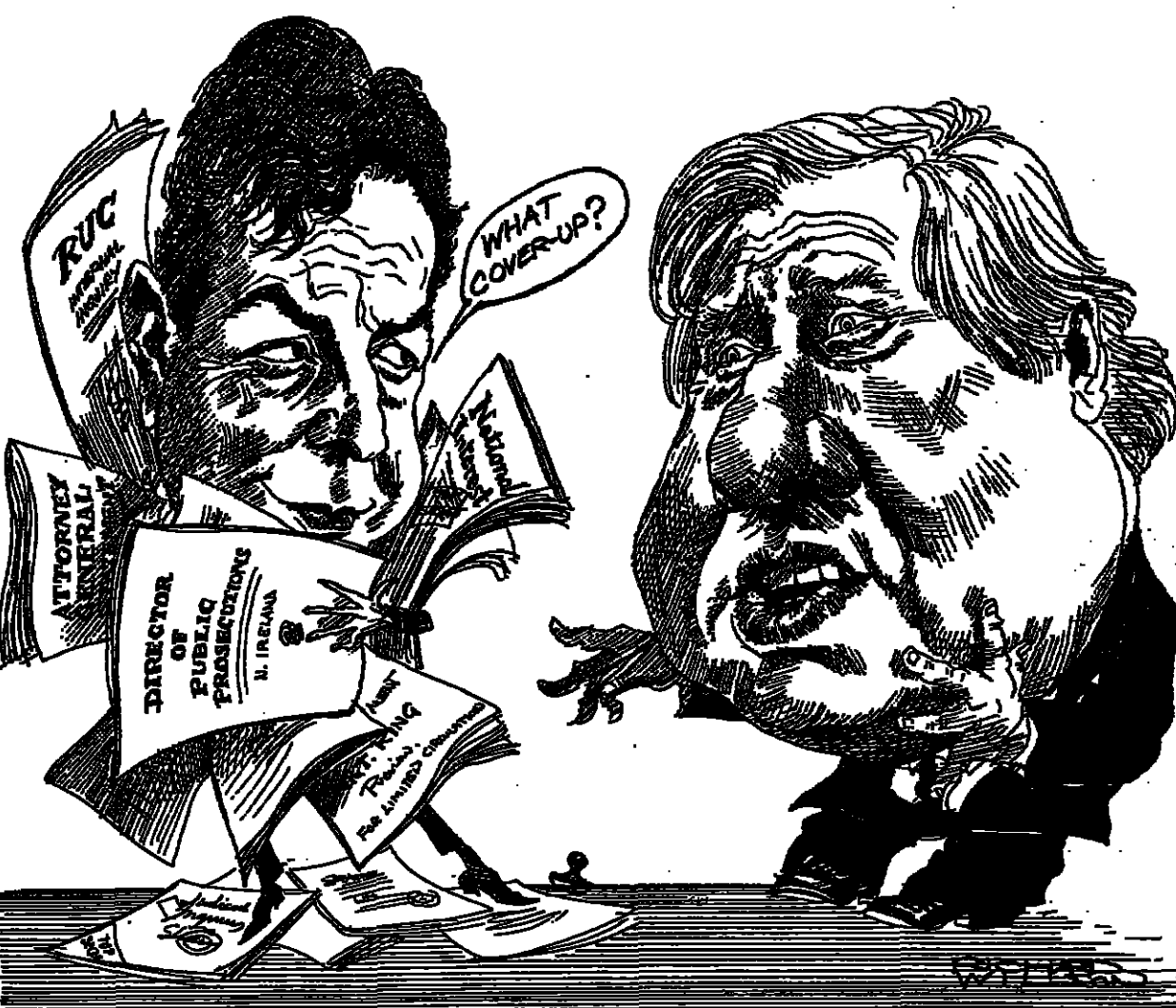
"The vast majority of the

people of this country have seen a substantial increase in their living standards since this Government took office."

Mr John Redwood (Wokingham, C) said that figures showed that policies that promoted enterprise and competition delivered the goods.

Mr Norman Lamont, Financial Secretary to the Treasury, said that such points had been made in representations he had received. "But encouragement for forestry is thought to be important to the rural economy, and such a policy has been pursued by governments for many years."

Mr Douglas Henderson (Newcastle upon Tyne North, Lab) said the tax regime on trees had not, in fact, led to any significant increase in planting. "It has provided a tax haven for pop stars and film stars, and the taxpayer has been ripped off."



Mr Hattersley (right): Mr Wakeham either deceives himself or seeks to delude others

Tax relief scheme attacked

There had been widespread criticism of tax relief for tree-planting, and there were rumours that the Prince of Wales would make a speech critical of the relief in the House of Lords, Mr Lindsay (Dumfriesshire and Galloway, Lab) said during Commons questions.

He said that criticism came from bodies such as the Nature Conservancy Council and the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds.

Many would argue that Britain should not continue to destroy the country's environment by indiscriminate tree-planting. The minister should consider giving tax relief, instead, for hedgerow-planting.

Mr Norman Lamont, Financial Secretary to the Treasury, said that such points had been made in representations he had received. "But encouragement for forestry is thought to be important to the rural economy, and such a policy has been pursued by governments for many years."

Mr Douglas Henderson (Newcastle upon Tyne North, Lab) said the tax regime on trees had not, in fact, led to any significant increase in planting. "It has provided a tax haven for pop stars and film stars, and the taxpayer has been ripped off."

Dependence on benefit 'must not be first step'

The Government was quite determined that youths did not see dependence on state benefit as the natural first step after leaving school, Lord Skelmersdale, Under Secretary of State for Health and Social Security, said.

He was speaking during the resumed committee stage in the Lords of the Social Security Bill. There had been protests from the Opposition benches about clause 4 of the Bill, which would deny cash benefits to school leavers who did not take a job, go on to further education or accept a place on the Youth Training Scheme.

The clause was approved by 135 votes to 88 - Government majority, 47.

Lord Banks (L), moving opposition to the clause standing part of the Bill, said that it would make the Youth Training Scheme compulsory instead of voluntary. Not only was that going further than the Conservative manifesto, it was contrary to the wishes of the CBI, the National Union of Students, the British Youth Council and Youth Aid.

The original aim of the Government had been to remove the eligibility to benefit from those under 18 who deliberately chose to remain un-

HOUSE OF LORDS

employed, particularly those who did not enter the Youth Training Scheme.

There was no evidence that this was a sizeable group, research having shown that 91.1 per cent of school leavers would prefer to work rather than be on benefit. The clause was a sledge hammer to crack a nut.

Lady Jeger (Lab) said that the clause went far beyond the

Government's original aim of removing the eligibility to benefit from those under 18 who deliberately chose to remain unemployed.

The clause also turned natural justice on its head. Instead of saying these young people were innocent until proved guilty of not taking a job, they were said to be guilty until they proved their innocence. That was totally opposite to the tradition of British justice.

Lord Boyd-Carpenter (C) said that it was true that only a few youngsters would be affected, but most legislation was designed to deal with the problems of quite small minorities. The whole of criminal law dealt with a very limited number of people who sought to commit crimes.

The fact that only a few would be affected was argument for passing the clause rather than deleting it.

Lord Pitt of Hampstead (Lab) said that the clause failed to take account of the degree to which 16 and 17 year olds became estranged from their parents and the homelessness which resulted. The Government should give the point further consideration.

Lady Phillips (Lab) said that as a young actress she had a part in *Love on the Dole*. It was the poignant story about young people from an ordinary family leaving home so that they could each collect benefit and not be a burden on their parents. The clause was a direct invitation to the young to do just that.

DEFENCE

Modernization of UK air defence command and control systems and ground-based radar was well advanced. The bulk of the equipment had been built and installed.

Some was in service and the remainder would be introduced within four years. The UK was already capable of effective monitoring of the UK Air Defence Region of about 500,000 square miles.

An airborne early warning system for the 1990s would be provided by seven Boeing E3 aircraft which would make possible continuous patrols and identify the early approach of enemy aircraft.

This would be increasingly important as the Warsaw Pact developed its capacity for low level operations.

The first squadron of the Tornado air defence variant, the new interceptor aircraft, became operational at the beginning of November and a second squadron would become operational later this year.

There had been difficulties with the aircraft's Foxhunter air-intercept radar. Radar to an agreed interim standard had been fitted.

Since 1979 the Government had spent an extra £8 billion on the RAF after inflation.

Nine squadrons in Germany and the UK had been equipped with the Tornado GR1 for the strike-attack role.

Two more squadrons would be formed for reconnaissance, one based in Germany to replace the current Jaguar squadron, and another, later, in the UK. A mid-life improvement package was planned for the

Tornado GR1 for the early 1990s.

The replacement of the Harrier GR3 with the GR5 had been delayed by the loss in October of a GR5 test pilot and subsequent ditching of his aircraft.

It was clearly right that after that accident the factors which caused it should be carefully considered, any recommendations implemented and all systems of the aircraft fully tested.

Test flying was expected to resume shortly and would include tests on the Ferrari inertial navigation system which had not yet been cleared for RAF flying.

In the absence of further problems, conversion training would begin later this year; 62 GR5s had been ordered and should be delivered within two to three years.

RAF is to continue helicopter rescues

Helicopter search and rescue services will continue to be provided by the Royal Air Force and Royal Navy wherever there is a military need, Mr Ian Stewart, Minister of State for the Armed Forces, announced during a debate on the RAF.

But the Department of Transport is to carry out a study of the needs for a civilian service to supplement the service provision.

Mr Stewart also announced that the support helicopter force for the armed services would remain under the RAF, rather than the Army.

An exercise to practise the United Kingdom's capability for rapid reinforcement of the Falkland Islands in case of emergency was to be held next month.

Mr Stewart said that there had been considerable interest in the proposal put to the Ministry of Defence by Bristow

Helicopters to replace the existing armed forces helicopter search and rescue function by a civilian contract.

"We have been considering whether our current arrangements for search and rescue could be improved, and in our studies we have felt bound to take into account the ideas which Bristow put forward."

"Although we have not yet reached a final conclusion about the most effective disposition of our resources for search and rescue, I can tell the House today that we have made a firm decision that, wherever there is a military requirement for search and rescue, it should continue to be provided by the RAF and the RN."

He said that RAF quick-reaction alert aircraft were scrambled an average of three or four times a week in support of search and rescue.

He said that RAF quick-reaction alert aircraft were scrambled an average of three or four times a week in support of search and rescue.

Economy 'not in inflation danger'

It would be unwise to read overheating of the economy into every indicator, Mr John Major, Chief Secretary to the Treasury, said during Commons questions.

He was replying to Mr Nicholas Budgen (Wolverhampton South West, C), who said that the Ford dispute was unfortunate because in addition to inhibiting investment it was also, "a clear indication of overheating in the economy."

Mr Major added that if overheating in the economy were to appear, the Government would not hesitate to take action against inflationary pressures.

But supply-side improvements since 1979 meant that firms could operate at a much higher rate of capacity utilization than previously. "Mr Budgen's concern is a bit overdone."

TREASURY

Mr Stuart Holland, an Opposition spokesman on Treasury and economic affairs, said that manufacturing investment in real terms, at 1980 prices, was 10 per cent below the 1979 figure.

When would there be policies to ensure that savings were put into manufacturing investment to rebuild a competitive economy?

Mr Major said that the end product of investment was productivity and profitability, and the evidence that these were higher, suggested that investment had been running at a high level and that it had been "quality" investment.

Alton Bill supporters will campaign against MP

By Martin Fletcher
Political Reporter

Supporters of Mr David Alton's abortion Bill are to mount a campaign of direct extra-parliamentary action against a left-wing Labour MP.

They are to hold public fasts and prayer meetings in his constituency to protest at his conduct.

They claim that on Wednesday Mr Harry Cohen became the first MP to use the procedural device of filibustering to try to kill the Alton Bill, which cannot begin its committee stage in the Commons until two other private members' Bills have been examined.

Mr Cohen, who is honorary sheriff of a town in Massachusetts and is described in a parliamentary handbook as having "tasteless humour", spoke for 90 minutes on the Protection of Animals (Amendment) Bill, arguing, among other things, that penalties for those who mistreated animals should be made retrospective and suggesting that hard labour was a suitable punishment for animal cruelty. He has also tabled around 10 amendments to the Bill.

Mr Cohen denies the charge of filibustering.

He insisted yesterday that he has a long record of interest in animal welfare, that this was a rare opportunity to do some-



Mr Harry Cohen: Denies that he is filibustering

thing about it, and that he was not going to be "bounced" into giving way by Mr Alton or anyone else.

Supporters of Mr Alton's Bill, which will fall unless it completes its committee stage by early May, deride Mr Cohen's protestations of innocence.

They believe him to be merely the first of a string of expected filibusters, most of whom are holding their fire for Mr Andrew Maceley's Licensing (Retail Sales) Bill, and are determined to demonstrate that they will not be allowed to filibuster with impunity.

They were quick to point out that Mr Cohen's majority is a slender 4,641.

Pro-life and church organizations are gearing themselves up to hold mass fasts and prayer meetings in his constituency, Leyton, in east London, to coincide with further committee sittings on the Protection of Animals Bill.

Mr Cohen can also expect to receive many not entirely spontaneous protest letters.

Mr Alton said it was "disgraceful that one MP should frustrate the wishes of a Commons majority" in this way, and quite proper that Mr Cohen's constituents should be made aware of what he is doing in their name.

"However, we have sanctioned the actions of some of our supporters who wish to fast and pray for Mr Cohen. Obviously the more that procedural devices are used to frustrate the will of Parliament the more angry many of our supporters in the country will become," he said.

Mr Cohen was unimpressed by the threatened action. "I suggest they do the same for animals which suffer severe cruelty," he said. "These will be people coming in from outside to cause trouble. The people of Leyton are not to be kept on outsiders."

Bill gets doctors' support

By Robin Oakley
Political Editor

The British Medical Association has come out in strong support of a private member's Bill, due to be debated today, which would provide for patients to have the right to see copies of medical reports requested from their doctors by employers or insurance companies.

Mr Michael Wilson, chairman of the BMA's General Medical Services Committee, has written to Mr Archie Kirkwood (Liberal MP for Rosburgh and Berwickshire), the promoter of the Bill, and to the Freedom of Information Campaign, which drafted it, expressing "strong support" for the principle of the Bill and calling for it to go further still.

As the Bill stands, it will give individuals the right to see reports produced for their existing or prospective employers or for insurance companies, with which they are seeking policies, giving them the chance to pick up errors that have crept into medical records and to withdraw their consent to the reports being sent if they object to them.

But the BMA says that it would like the Bill extended to cover all reports on individuals sent to third parties, such as those sent in support of national insurance and social security benefit claims.

Cults come under peers' attack

The following report of a Lords debate on the subject of religious cults on family life and young people appeared in later editions yesterday.

Many pseudo-religious cults practised slave labour, and sometimes child sex abuse and prostitution were involved, yet the Government had adopted a laissez-faire attitude to them, Lord Rodney, a Conservative peer, said in the Lords.

"Why are Scientists and others permitted to beg and importune in the street without a licence? Why is there no action against the Children of God, who practise child sex abuse and prostitution for recruiting purposes?"

Joining a cult was as destructive to the family as drug abuse. "And, strangely, the symptoms are similar - an air of secrecy, alienation from family and friends, frequent requests for money, a general attitude of disinterest and, finally, departure from home."

Opening the debate, Lord Rodney said that parents of children seduced by these cults, and completely subjugated, felt a sense of hopelessness and helplessness. There was something sinister and underhand about the way recruiting was carried out. He wished that the established churches would be more robust and disown these cults.

The organization Infirm -

Symptoms 'similar to drug abuse'

Information Network Focus on Religious Movements - was supported by £20,000 from the Home Office every three years, but the Government had backed the wrong horse. He believed that Infirm's approach would be intellectual and sociological, of little use to a distraught mother who had lost her child to a cult and needed advice.

Lord Houghton of Sowerby (Lab) said that a close look must be taken at charitable registration.

The Bishop of Chelmsford, the Right Rev John Waine, in a maiden speech, said: I have had experience of speaking with distraught parents and the devastated spouse of someone who disappeared from the family scene as a result of being brought under the evil influence of one of the most notorious of these cults, which rejoices in the name of the Children of God.

We are told that there are fewer than 15,000 people belonging to these groups in the United Kingdom.

He said that distress was caused out of all proportion to the numbers involved.

"Many adherents of these cults have been disillusioned with society and, I have to admit, disillusioned with the Church, which appears to be at odds with itself and lukewarm in its commitment." The best antidote would be an enthusiastic and idealistic church, made

HOUSE OF LORDS



Lord Houghton: Charitable registration to be looked at

up of supportive groups of Christians.

The churches intended to work with Infirm. He had been told that much of the press criticism was due largely to misunderstanding of its role or a misguided desire to undermine its work.

Lord Thurlow (Ind) hoped that it might be possible, through legislation if necessary,

Tories blamed for lack of trust

The Government had brought public confidence in the security services into disrepute by identifying itself and the Conservative Party interest with the national and public interest. Mr Malcolm Bruce (Gordon, L) said during Prime Minister's question time.

He referred to the Court of Appeal decision on Wednesday, when the Government's claim for a permanent ban on publication in the British media of material from *Spycatcher* by Mr Peter Wright was rejected. The Government is appealing to the House of Lords.

Onslaught on CAP

In no circumstances should the Government agree to extra funding for the EEC while Europe was spending £2.3 billion a week on dumping and destroying food and £50 million a week on financing crops, Mr Teddy Taylor (Southend East, C) said during questions.

Mr John Wakeham, Lord President of the Council, said that Mrs Thatcher was in Brussels at a meeting of the European Council, dealing with those difficult issues. "She goes with the good wishes and support of the British people."

Child debate is refused

The Speaker refused an emergency debate on the postponement of open heart surgery at Birmingham Children's Hospital on Clare Weir, aged seven, of Kidsgrove.

Miss Jean Walley (Stockport, North, Lab) said that at Christmas the child's parents had been told that she must have open heart surgery within three months.

She was called in for an operation on Monday, but on Wednesday they were told that all operations were cancelled until further notice.

Parliament next week

The main business in the House of Commons next week will be:

Monday: Debate on private member's motion on self-employment. Debate on agriculture.

Tuesday: Immigration Bill, remaining stages. Motion on Prevention of Terrorism.

Wednesday: Debate on abolition of Ilea. Motion to give extra time for debate of Education Reform Bill. Motion on rate-support grant.

Thursday: Motions on Social Fund regulations and on Rate Limitation order. Friday: Private members' motions.

The main business in the House of Lords will be: Monday: Local Government Bill, report, first day.

Tuesday: Local Government Bill, local Government Bill, report, first day. Prevention of Terrorism (Temporary Provisions) Act, 1984, Continuation Order.

Wednesday: Debates on Nature Conservancy Council and on nutritional labelling.

Thursday: Local Government Bill, report, third day. Licensing Bill, second reading.

Friday: Debate on White Paper on DTI, the Department for Enterprise.

to introduce a legal right of access, but there was no easy way to rescue those who had been brainwashed.

Lady Ewart-Biggs, from the Opposition front bench, said that objection to cults was not based on their beliefs, but on practices that involved deception, exploitation and manipulation of the mind.

There was a need to co-ordinate the efforts of organizations working to undo the harm caused by the cults.

Earl Ferrers, Minister of State, Home Office, said that the ill effects of some of these bodies were well known, but unless they broke the criminal law there was nothing that could be done.

The Government was sponsoring Infirm, which had been established last month. It aimed to provide information on the activities of cults and provided counselling.


The question of denying cults charitable status was a tricky one. However, the Government was taking steps to improve the supervision of charities and intended to strengthen the powers of the Charity Commissioners.

Because an organization was of charitable status it did not follow automatically that it would receive tax concessions. These were scrutinized carefully by the Inland Revenue.

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Grants cut to universities with poor research rating

By Sarah Thompson,
Education Reporter

Ten universities and equivalent institutions are to suffer sharp cash cuts this year because they performed poorly in the University Grants Committee's research rating exercise of 1986.

One, Aberdeen University, is locked in a deepening dispute with the committee and may have to make compulsory redundancies because the committee has backed on a promise that it would have an extra three years to wipe out its deficit of £1.2 million.

Mr Robert Jackson, Minister for Higher Education, said yesterday that the Government was giving the committee £1.574 million, an increase of 8.2 per cent over the previous year.

However, in the grants announced yesterday universities are getting only a 3.2 per cent rise this year in their basic distribution grant from the Government. Nearly 40 of the 52 institutions under the committee's jurisdiction are seeing increases below the current inflation rate of about 3.7 per cent.

The provisional figures for 1989-90 show that the overall increase will be 3 per cent, again below expected inflation rates. The overall rise is "somewhat less than the Government's latest forecasts for the increase in general inflation". Sir Peter Swinerton-Dyer, chairman of the committee, acknowledges in his letter to vice-chancellors.

After the abolition of a funding "safety net" which last year protected institutions which were due for heavy cuts because of their poor performance in the ratings exercise, the 10 "worst loser" institutions are to be cut by between

HOW THE UNIVERSITIES FARED 1988-89

Grants rising by more than the inflation rate of 3.7 per cent (£m):

University	1987-88	1988-89	Per cent change
Ulster	30,079	32,478	+8%
Warwick	19,859	21,274	+7%
York	12,450	13,269	+6%
Bath	15,244	16,209	+6%
Southampton	27,183	28,841	+6%
Kent	11,514	12,245	+5%
Sussex	15,249	16,000	+5%
Loughborough	20,291	21,184	+4%
Bristol	31,676	33,258	+4%
Manchester	50,056	52,033	+4%
Wales C of Medicine	7,090	7,396	+4%
Strathclyde	24,839	25,638	+4%

Grants rising by less than the inflation rate (£m):

University	1987-88	1988-89	Change
Leicester	18,870	19,542	+3%
Manchester I of Science & Tech	17,206	17,857	+3%
Oxford	46,983	48,582	+3%
Surrey	13,436	13,902	+3%
Heriot-Watt	11,240	11,641	+3%
Cambridge	46,344	47,273	+2%
Lancaster	14,179	14,584	+3%
London	248,908	258,219	+3%
Nottingham	29,137	30,009	+3%
Sheffield	13,543	13,985	+3%
St David's, Lampeter	2,048	2,109	+3%
U C Cardiff, U of Wales I of Science & Tech	26,295	27,061	+3%
Welsh Registry (central office U of W)	2,315	2,391	+3%
Brunel	13,467	13,807	+2%
Birmingham	39,059	39,876	+2%
Bradford	15,342	15,891	+2%
Essex	9,032	9,274	+2%
Hull	14,749	15,056	+2%
Leeds	44,128	44,973	+2%
Liverpool	38,698	39,508	+2%
Imperial College (in London U)	31,686	32,495	+2%
Sheffield	32,638	33,274	+2%
Edinburgh	45,670	46,593	+2%
Glasgow	46,392	47,584	+2%
St Andrews	11,576	11,783	+2%
Newcastle	32,780	33,238	+1%
City	11,941	12,150	+1%
Aberystwyth U.C.	10,337	10,470	+1%
Aston	15,268	15,362	+0%
Stirling	8,232	8,298	+0%

Universities suffering actual cash cuts (£m):

University	1987-88	1988-89	Change
London Business School	1,890	1,803	-5%
Swansea Univ Coll	13,778	13,745	-0%
Durham	17,730	17,728	-0%
Keele	8,567	8,490	-1%
Bangor Univ Coll	11,045	10,828	-2%
Queen's, Belfast	22,586	22,118	-2%
East Anglia	31,588	31,087	-2%
Dundee	15,056	14,856	-3%
Dundee	15,056	14,851	-3%
Manchester Business School	1,121	1,088	-12%

0.5 and 12 per cent in cash terms in the academic year 1988-89.

Aberdeen University's grant is being cut this year by 2 per cent. Its senate has written to Sir Peter expressing its "disgust and unease" that he has gone back on his earlier advice that they had three

years longer than the standard planning period in which to wipe out the deficit.

The deficit was caused by historical over-funding for which the university is recognized by him not to be responsible.

A further uncertainty for universities this year stems from the lack of a government estimate of grant for 1990-91. Universities are being advised to plan on the assumption that it will rise by 3 per cent again.

Sir Peter says that the uncertainty is partly because of the committee's second "research assessment exercise", in which universities will be ranked according to the income generated by research, and the planned changeover to the Universities Funding Council taking place next year.

On paper, the worst affected institution appears to be the Manchester Business School which, in the two years from 1987, is to see a 25 per cent reduction in its grant.

In his annual report, Mr Robert Telfer, the school's director, yesterday predicted that student fees, which rose by 30 per cent last year to nearly £4,000 for an MBA, will have to rise again by more than 30 per cent.

The penalized institutions will not have an opportunity to show a better rating on the committee's funding criteria, and thus win more government funds, until 1990-91. Another 30 institutions receive grant rises below the inflation rate.

Sir Peter says in his letter that universities which are in severe financial difficulties, as a result, may be offered some help from a £155 million cash bonus for universities announced by the Chancellor of the Exchequer in the autumn.

General Synod debates education Bill Call for religion in curriculum

By Alan Wood



The Bishop of London, Dr Graham Leonard, addressing the synod on Mr Baker's reforms, as outlined in *The Times*.

The Church of England's General Synod has backed an attempt by its board of education to amend the Government's Education Reform Bill.

By 267 votes to four, with 13 abstentions, the synod carried a motion by the Bishop of London and chairman of the education board, Dr Graham Leonard, sharing the board's concern about the possible consequences of the Bill and supporting its intention to seek amendments.

Prime among these is a call to strengthen the position of religious instruction and worship within the proposed new national curriculum. There is also concern about the reduced role of local education authorities, which could weaken the role of the church in education.

In his speech commending the board's report to the synod, Dr Leonard skilfully dissected an article in *The Times* on February 1 by Mr Kenneth Baker, Secretary of State for Education and Science. The bishop wanted the Government's plans, which the church shared, might be fulfilled, but without damage to the nation's schools.

On a show of hands, the synod firmly rejected an amendment proposed by the Rev David

schools to "opt out" as an extension of choice beyond that provided through the existence of church schools. But this overlooked the crucial difference between voluntary schools and the new grant-maintained schools.

Voluntary schools were within the system in terms of partnership with the local education authorities; the maintained schools were not in the system at all and would introduce a new span to the education system.

The Church of England would not oppose extension of choice within the system, Dr Leonard said. "What we fear are the consequences of setting up a new system, a parallel system, virtually a rival system."

In his *Times* article, Mr Baker had also intensified fears by discussing for the first time, that he accepted the possibility that a church school could opt out of a church school once it opted out, if the governors so proposed and provided consultative procedures were complied with.

Mr Baker had stated he would not envisage agreeing to any such change if the trustees were against it. But the Bill as drafted, the Bishop of London said, would enable any later holder of the office of Secretary of State to agree to such a proposal, whatever the views of the relevant trustees might be.

The Church of England's board of education was still firmly of the view that checks and balances on the Secretary of State's powers in many areas of the Bill were inadequate.

The board was also continuing to ask for religious education to be a foundation subject. The Bill as it stood would weaken the position of RE, not strengthen it as the Government claimed it was trying to do.

Dr Leonard also referred to the danger that parental choice could be exercised in such a way as to create racially segregated schools and/or religiously-based ghetto schools. He had been described by ministers as the necessary price of freedom, but one must wonder whether the price was not too high.

Professor J R Porter (South-east Universities) argued that religious education would be in no worse a position under the new Bill than it was at present; indeed, it would be a better position. Parents would have a

6 We fear the consequences of a rival education system

much clearer and stronger right of complaint if they felt religious education was not being provided as required by law.

Cassia Ivor Smith-Cameron (South-west) said the Bill had been crippled by the Government's reluctance to reflect the ethnic mix of British society.

Schools would be enabled to take more pupils. A ghetto effect could be produced as a result of a white flight to a few schools.

Miss D R Etchells (Durham), a university teacher, said that if they were going to abolish academic freedom for life, then academic freedom must visibly be safeguarded. She saw neither "reds nor fascists" under the bed, but had watched a procession of academics in other countries relieved of their posts because they taught subjects unpopular with their governments.

"I am not suggesting the present Government would remove any academic in this way, but what is being dismantled is the apparatus of defence", she said.

He believed the Government had acted responsibly by recognizing that its original proposals were not in the best interests of London's children. The prospect of piecemeal dismemberment had indeed caused dismay. But the Government's responsibility did not end there.

"A simple devotion to individual boroughs will be no better a solution", he said. He had an ally in the Bishop of Southwark, the Right Rev Ronald Bowly, who also wanted "a middle way" but admitted that he was far from clear what it could be.

Dr Leonard said that short of a change of Government, the Bill was bound to be forced through Parliament with its main ingredients intact. The task was to limit as much as they could the damage the Bill would cause.

In an article in *The Times* on February 1, Mr Baker had described proposals to allow

Mr Stephen De Silva (St Albans), head of religious studies at a comprehensive school, said the 10 foundation subjects were rapidly becoming the 10 Commandments. Religious education was being placed on one side.

The Bishop of Peterborough, the Right Rev William Westwood, said the nation needed better science and technology: if there were a price, it would have to be paid. He wanted to affirm the possibilities of choice which the Bill did offer.

Dr Helen King (Guildford) said a curriculum was being proposed for five to 16-year-olds. What were the implications for science as a core subject at primary level?

Preb John Pearce (London) considered the Bill was very necessary. He wanted parents to be given more responsibility.

The Rev D N Gibbs (Sheffield) also supported the general thrust of the Bill.

Neighbourhood watch schemes cut burglary

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

Successes against burglary, a key aim of neighbourhood watch schemes, are disclosed in a sample taken by *The Times* of the latest provincial crime figures.

Burglary, which fell by 5 per cent in the Metropolitan Police area last year, has also fallen in Greater Manchester (9 per cent), West Midlands (11 per cent), Merseyside (8 per cent), Sussex (3 per cent) and Northumbria (3 per cent).

Burglaries increased by 3.9 per cent last year in Devon and Cornwall. In Cheshire there was a 10.1 per cent rise in house burglaries.

Gwent, which has had a campaign against burglary in commercial property, saw the rewards with a 5 per cent cut.

After a 4 per cent fall in overall crime recorded by the Metropolitan Police, the survey statistics give further grounds for cautious optimism as the Government increases its crime prevention campaign.

In the West Midlands and Greater Manchester forces the latest total of recorded crime is virtually unchanged, while on Merseyside there was a drop in 1987 of 2.2 per cent. The West Midlands showed a rise of only 1.5 per cent in 1987.

The main exceptions to the trend were Northumbria with a rise of 4.6 per cent in all recorded crime during 1987. Avon and Somerset (8 per cent) and Cheshire (8.9 per cent).

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WORLD ROUNDUP

Indians set for mass offensive

Colombo — An indefinite curfew was imposed on some parts of Sri Lanka's Eastern Province including the coastal town of Batticaloa yesterday in preparation for a major Indian offensive on the main Tamil guerrilla group, the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (Vijitha Yapa writes). "About 20,000 Indian troops are already here," a police official in Batticaloa said.

Residents of Batticaloa said the constant movement of aircraft during the past few days indicated that more troops were being flown in and then moved to other areas by helicopter. During the week Indian troops began combing the jungle area around Padavankari about 15 miles from Batticaloa. There are now more than 50,000 Indian troops in Sri Lanka's Eastern and Northern Provinces, according to sources at the Indian High Commission.

Glider sentence

Jerusalem — The Israeli Army officer who was in command of the camp attacked by a Palestinian hang glider pilot in November was given a six-month suspended prison sentence, reduced in rank and dismissed from the Army by a court martial in Jaffa yesterday (Ian Murray writes).

Captain Ben Elizar was found negligent for having failed to put the camp on alert after a warning that a hang glider had crossed the border from Lebanon. Six soldiers were killed and seven injured before the Palestinian was shot.

Nofziger is guilty

Washington — In another embarrassment to the White House, Mr. Lyn Nofziger, former political director to President Reagan, has been found guilty of illegal lobbying in violation of conflict of interest laws (Christopher Thomas writes).

Mr. Nofziger, aged 63, a friend of Mr. Reagan for more than 20 years, faces a maximum penalty of six years' imprisonment. His conviction came less than two months after Mr. Michael Deaver, the former deputy White House Chief of Staff, was found guilty of perjury.

Agony at hospital gate

Paris — The French Minister of Health, Mme Michèle Barzach, has launched an urgent inquiry into the case of a youth who lay in agony by the gates of Antoine-Béchère hospital in a Paris suburb for more than 20 minutes before dying on the operating table (Philip Jacobson writes). Eric Pernot, aged 18, who had been hit by a car, was reportedly left in a pool of blood while hospital staff and emergency services argued about responsibility for helping him. Mme Barzach referred angrily to the "revolving" possibility that rigid official guidelines had contributed to the tragedy.

General sacked

Buenos Aires (Reuters) — The Argentine Army said that it had dismissed a general favoured by mutinous officers involved in two anti-government rebellions.

A spokesman for the Defence Ministry said that General Heriberto Auel, the chief of operations of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, had been relieved of his post. Ministry sources said that the army chief, General Dante Cardini, ordered the removal because General Auel refused to explain why the rebels mentioned him as a candidate for the job of Army commander-in-chief.

Contras to talk

Miami (AFP) — Representatives of the Nicaraguan Contras will take part in direct ceasefire negotiations with the Sandinista Government next week, Señor Aristides Sanchez, a member of the Nicaraguan Resistance Directorate, has pledged.

The Contras postponed talks scheduled for Wednesday in Guatemala because the US Congress voted not to send \$36.2 million (£20.5 million) in aid to them. The new move has been made at the request of Cardinal Miguel Obando y Bravo, the Archbishop of Managua, acting as mediator.

Roh's liberal premier

Seoul — The Prime Minister of South Korea's nascent democracy is to be a distinguished academic and economist, with no experience of government but impeccable credentials as an opponent of authoritarian rule (Gavin Bell writes).

Mr. Lee Hyun Jae, right, a former president of Seoul University, was nominated yesterday by Mr. Roh Tae Woo, the President-elect, evidently to reinforce the liberal image of his administration, which is due to take office in two weeks. Mr. Lee, aged 58, has no political party affiliation. In 1985 he was made to resign as president of Seoul National University after he refused to expel students involved in anti-government protests.

A spokesman for the ruling Democratic Justice Party said he had been chosen "because he is suitable for bringing about national harmony, and giving a fresh image to the Government." As Prime Minister, Mr. Lee will wield considerably more influence than any of his predecessors. But his appointment will be a further blow to the divided opposition trying to regroup before parliamentary elections which are due to be held next month.

What is
New Scientist
and why don't
we drive our cars
on par-boiled
broccoli?

If you're piqued over petrol prices and indignant about diesel, you can always consider running your car on cabbage, cauliflower or the casual dump of broccoli. Or at least you could have, if an inventor in the Channel Islands had his way.

Apparently, he has developed a method to synthesise petrol from common-or-garden vegetables. You just pulp the things in a pressure cooker, feed 12 volts through a silver anode and mild-steel cathode, and Bob's your uncle.

We haven't actually tested it here at New Scientist. But in a recent article, we reported on this and dozens of other crazy inventions. (If you think par-boiled petrol is weird, you should have read the one about heat-sensitive brassieres).

newscientist
It makes sense.

Republican war of attrition in New Hampshire

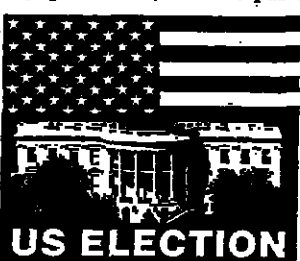
Support crumbles for rattled Bush

From Michael Binyon, Nashua, New Hampshire

It is, as Vice-President George Bush would put it, "tension city" among the Republicans here. Mr. Bush, wounded in Iowa, is beginning to see his solid support in New Hampshire crumble. If he cannot hang on to it, his candidacy is doomed.

A poll by the *Boston Globe* published yesterday showed that the race, in which Mr. Bush had a 20-point lead only a week ago, is now neck-and-neck, with Mr. Bush leading Senator Robert Dole by only two per cent, 29 per cent to 27.

Mr. Bush, clearly rattled, has begun to fight back with a torrent of television advertisements emphasizing his closeness to President Reagan, who is popular here, and his past.



meetings with world leaders such as Mrs. Thatcher and Mr. Gorbachov.

But in a series of television interviews he seems to have lost direction. He made light of his setback in Iowa by saying he now had another thing in common with Mr. Reagan, who also lost there in 1980. "Iowa is Iowa, New Hampshire is New Hampshire. I've had a warm reception here after being clobbered there," he said.

But he admitted that another defeat would damage his campaign, which now turns on his achieving a big

win in the South next month. He has also refused to attack the Rev. Pat Robertson, aware that the former evangelist has strong support in the South.

But he has begun to attack Mr. Dole as a creature of Congress, which he denounces as an ineffective body. "I made more decisions running the CIA in a week than I did during my four years in Congress."

In the battle of advertisements, however, Mr. Dole appears to be winning. Unlike his tactic in Iowa, he also has wrapped himself in President Reagan's mantle, insisting that as Senate Republican Leader he did more than Mr. Bush to translate the President's agenda into law.

In one telling advertisement, pictures of the two men appear side by side. As Mr. Dole lists all the important Bills passed, and the fight for ratification of the new arms treaty, he insists that "George Bush has nothing to do with it". Mr. Bush's picture then slowly disappears.

Mr. Dole, counselled two weeks ago by the former President, Mr. Richard Nixon, to take the offensive, is now giving free rein to his quick wit and boundless energy.

He is everywhere, especially on television, striding through hotel lobbies shaking hands — even with foreign reporters — making speeches on foreign policy, even joining his wife, Elizabeth, behind a counter to serve hamburgers while the cameras roll.

She is a considerable asset to him, as he acknowledged in brushing aside talk of a Dole ticket: "I don't want to be just Vice-President."

Mr. Dole has taken a firm



The Rev. Pat Robertson, left, greeting a supporter of his campaign for the Republican nomination in Lancaster, New Hampshire, yesterday during the run-up to Tuesday's primary.

line, insisting he will test and deploy the Strategic Defence Initiative, and draws applause for calling the House of Representatives' severing of aid to the Contras a "grievous mistake". Mr. Bush is still floundering in the Iran-Contra affair. In a live NBC interview, where both the anchor-

man and Mr. Bush tried to avoid the fiasco of the Dan Rather confrontation, Mr. Bush got bogged down trying to clear up the nagging details. He finally admitted that he still had not told everything, nor did he intend to, as he believed his discussions with Mr. Reagan should remain

confidential. It was a less than convincing defence.

Despite endorsements from Governor John Sununu and other New Hampshire leaders, many conservatives here believe that Mr. Bush has never really accepted the Reagan political agenda and are impressed by Mr. Dole

Waldheim historian in clash

From Richard Bassett, Vienna

The Israeli member of the commission which investigated President Waldheim's wartime career claimed yesterday that the Austrian Government had put pressure on the commission to soften its conclusions.

Mr. Jehuda Wallach, who voiced concern this week that the report was being interpreted as an exoneration of President Waldheim's activities in the Balkans, was not specific, but criticized in particular Herr Thomas Klestil, head of the Austrian Foreign Office and former ambassador to the US.

While the commission's report found that President Waldheim had not been "actively" involved in war crimes, it was highly critical of his statements, seen as an attempt to deny his wartime career.

The Foreign Ministry in Vienna yesterday vigorously rejected Mr. Wallach's claims. A spokesman for Herr Klestil's office accused the historian of making "unfounded" statements.

Waldheim address: President Waldheim is to make a televised address to the nation this weekend, informed sources said in Vienna, and reports that he had pressed the Government to reject the report on his wartime activities (AFP reports). He has said that he will not resign.

Jordan Prime Minister talks to The Times

Israel 'must leave territories'

From Ian Murray, Amman

Israel must agree to withdraw from all the occupied territories, including East Jerusalem, before Jordan is prepared to negotiate for peace. "Land is not negotiable," Mr. Zaid al-Rifai, the Jordanian Prime Minister, told *The Times* yesterday.

There was no question of the Government in Amman's agreeing to any international "opening" to negotiations, short of a full-scale conference with a continuing role, until peace was agreed. "We are not after a photo-opportunity," he said.

Mr. al-Rifai said that Jordan had been told nothing so far of the details of an American plan outlined in Jerusalem by Israeli Foreign Ministry officials on Wednesday.

This proposal involved an "opening" followed immediately by the setting up of autonomy arrangements in the occupied territories, with negotiations for a final settlement starting in December.

The United States had said only that it wanted to revitalise the peace process. "It is still working on a set of

principles to give to the regional parties," he said.

"We will never accept something called an 'opening'. We are talking about a full-scale international conference with an ongoing role. The purpose of the conference would be to implement United Nations resolutions which called for the withdrawal of Israel and to settle the Palestinian problem in all its aspects. Anything short of that is unacceptable to us."

Jordan would also insist that the Palestine Liberation Organization represented the Palestinians, even if it formed part of a joint delegation. "We really have no differences with the PLO," he said. "Our only problem is that we are talking about what is possible. They are talking about what they would like to do. We support them in what they would like — but is it possible?"

"We would have no problem recognizing and living with an independent Palestinian state. But can they get one? We don't mind if they go as an independent delegation. As a matter of fact, we'd welcome them. It would be a big relief

for Jordan. But can they get invited? Then they are looking for self-determination. But Israel and the US oppose all those things. Is it possible to have a conference on that basis? If so, fine — no problem. But we are talking about what is pragmatic."

Each delegation would individually need the right to refer any impasse to the conference. He said: "We would like the moral weight of the world to be available to assist the parties. We realize that an international conference cannot impose any settlements or veto any agreement. But it certainly has an ongoing role throughout the whole process."

Mr. al-Rifai said that interim arrangements on autonomy, as outlined in the American plan, did not really count. What mattered was agreeing the final status of the occupied territories.

The Israelis refused to agree to a conference, he declared, "because they reject the basis on which the conference would be held."

"The international con-

ference would give an international legitimacy essential in our search for ways to implement the resolutions calling for withdrawal. They want face-to-face negotiations without the conference because peace to them means peace in place; peace on the status quo. That is not peace; that is submission."

The return of Arab Jerusalem was not negotiable but essential for peace, "but when that happened, it should not automatically mean a return to pre-1967 conditions of having a divided city with barbed wire and minefields. It is not beyond human ingenuity to devise a way under conditions of peace to have a special status for the city of Jerusalem," he said.

A confederation between independent Palestine and Jordan would give the Palestinians the kind of access to the world they needed, as well as enabling them to have their own identity. The two states on the east and west banks of the Jordan would have a very special relationship, he said, because they were really one people.

Islamabad drags feet on Afghan deal

By Edward Gorman

As diplomatic efforts to reach a settlement in Afghanistan intensify, there are increasing signs that the Pakistan Government may resist what it sees as attempts by the Soviet Union to bulldoze it into an agreement with Kabul at Geneva next month.

The Pakistanis are not prepared to support a deal which will neither end the fighting nor address the key issue of the nature of an interim government during a phased withdrawal of Soviet troops.

The developing gulf between Soviet and Pakistani positions — which puts prospects for accord in Geneva in doubt — was underlined yesterday after the Soviet First Deputy Foreign Minister, Mr. Yuli Vorontsov, emerged from two days of talks in Islamabad with Pakistani leaders.

"Maybe we are moving rather swiftly for some of the other participants in this

drama," he said. "But we are moving decisively, and we hope others will do the same."

The Pakistani Foreign Ministry spokesman was less enthusiastic. "From Pakistan's viewpoint, any solution which does not ensure conditions of peace and security

Peshawar (AFP) — Professor Bahaudin Majrooh, director of the pro-rebel Afghan Information Centre here, was assassinated yesterday, his family said. Professor Majrooh, who had been dean of literature at Kabul University before the Soviet intervention, was shot at his Peshawar home by an unknown gunman.

and an end to strife will be no more than half a solution."

Diplomatic sources said that all attempts by Pakistani officials to discuss how an interim government could be formed had been brushed aside by Mr. Vorontsov.

Pakistan is concerned that

an agreement at Geneva dealing exclusively with terms for a Soviet withdrawal, but not addressing the question of the interim government, will do little either to encourage the three million refugees to return or satisfy the demands of the Mujahidin leadership.

Yesterday the seven-party Resistance alliance underlined its determination not to cooperate with Dr. Najibullah's Government by announcing its own transitional government to include "Muslims inside Afghanistan; refugees and intellectuals abroad". Resistance leaders said that their government could be ready by March 2.

Among observers monitoring the peace process in Islamabad, there is a growing feeling that Mr. Gorbachov's sudden intervention last Monday, in which he said Soviet troops could start withdrawing by May 15 providing agreement is reached at Geneva by mid-

March, had taken Pakistan by surprise and placed Islamabad under intense diplomatic pressure to compromise its stance.

Mr. Vorontsov did little to dispel that impression, remarking pointedly after the talks: "Any delays in the signing of the Geneva accords will mean only one thing — and that will be a delay in the withdrawal of Soviet forces."

In a separate development yesterday, the Afghan Bakhtar news agency claimed that Mujahidin groups had planned to shoot down the plane of the United Nations mediator, Señor Diego Cordovez, on a recent trip to Kabul.

● WASHINGTON: The Reagan Administration has reacted favourably to Moscow's pledge to withdraw its 115,000 troops from Afghanistan (Christopher Thomas writes). It is studying precise terms for ending aid to the anti-communist guerrillas under a peace settlement.

French seduced by supernatural sting

From Philip Jacobson, Paris

Once bitten, twice shy. Unless, that is, you come from the little town of Vesoul, in the Jura region of eastern France. For the third time in less than five years its inhabitants have fallen hook, line and sinker for strikingly uncomplicated confidence tricks played by enterprising visitors from West Africa.

Faced with the eagerness with which they have lined up to be fleeced of several hundred thousand francs, one begins to understand why the stolid country folk of the Jura often appear unflatteringly in French jokes.

Vesoul's latest misfortune featured a self-styled marabout, or priest-cum-witch-doctor, from Guinea who

once installed in a fine flat, advertised his services as follows: "Monsieur Mohammed, celebrated soothsayer and practitioner of the supernatural, open 8am to 8pm, telephone for serious and efficacious treatment."

Among the options on offer were love potions, casting of spells, occult consultation and a "sure-fire way" to secure a good job.

According to an entertaining account in *Le Figaro*, business was slow to start with, but picked up noticeably when word went round Vesoul that M. Mohammed never raised the vulgar matter of his fee. Only when a client was well and truly hooked would he let slip his greatest secret —

an ancient, extraordinarily potent African ritual by which he could guarantee to double any sum of money placed between the pages of his "sacred book".

If this sounds too good to be true, consider that only last August Vesoul was all agog over "Maitre Diaby" from Senegal, a sorcerer by trade. He was doing very nicely, thank you, freeing people from evil spells by means of "demagnetization" at 100 francs (£10) a time, when the local police stepped in. Even then they had a difficult job getting anyone to testify against a fellow with such supernatural gifts.

Five years earlier, in an even less sophisticated operation, another itinerant mara-

bout had invited townspeople to deposit their capital in a large suitcase — where it would miraculously multiply. He was last seen leaving Vesoul, suitcase in hand.

There is not much more to tell about M. Mohammed's sting. When the "sacred book" was bulging with francs — the equivalent of some £30,000 by most reckonings — he retreated for 48 hours of uninterrupted solitude to cast his cabalistic charms.

Adieu Vesoul, or perhaps it should be *à la prochaine* — until the next time!

● An opinion poll in 1985 suggested that 18 per cent of the French believe in sorcery.

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Washington pares down army to pay for weapons

From Christopher Thomas, Washington

The US Army will shrink this year to a 10-year low of 772,600 soldiers, and it could gradually be reduced to 521,000—fewer than it had in pre-Korean War days.

The Under-Secretary for the Army, Mr James Ambrose, said that manpower cuts were necessary to free money to pay for weaponry that had been ordered during President Reagan's defence build-up. Mr Ambrose, who leaves his post this month, told *The Washington Post* that decreases in troop numbers must be accompanied by changes in tactics, including the introduction of robot infantrymen and radio-controlled aircraft and armoured cars.

His preference for cutting manpower rather than weaponry is not shared by all the military's leaders, some of whom have complained that the Army is too small to meet its global commitments. It now has 781,000 soldiers, compared with the Vietnam War peak of 1.57 million in 1968 and the high in 1945 of nearly six million. Army strength has not fallen below 600,000 since 1950.

The Air Force, Navy and Marine Corps are also reducing manpower as part of a retrenchment ordered by Mr Frank Carlucci, the Defence Secretary, in order to meet \$33 billion (£18.7 billion) in cuts

required under an agreement with Congress.

The federal Budget for 1989, which will be unveiled next week, is expected to reveal the first part of the biggest military cutback since President Reagan took office in 1981. Unless Congress reverts, his successor will have to make even more cuts to pay for weapons ordered early in the Reagan Administration.

The military budget is being further strained by the \$1 million a day spent on navy operations in the Gulf, and higher bills in Europe stemming from the falling value of the dollar. Pressures to reduce troop strengths in Europe are certain to grow.

Mr Ambrose said that it would have been better if the Administration and Congress had agreed on a steady increase, costing an extra 5 per cent a year, rather than trying to obtain so much money during Mr Reagan's first term.

● **Gay's ruling:** The Government will almost certainly appeal to the Supreme Court against a landmark ruling by a federal appeals court in California on Wednesday, which overturns the Army's ban on homosexuals.

The ruling contradicts previous decisions that allowed discrimination against homosexuals on the ground of national security.

Search for kidnapped UN workers



Palestinian guerrillas in the southern Lebanese city of Sidon searching the boot of an unregistered car at the entrance to the Ein el-Hilweh refugee camp yesterday for two United Nations relief workers kidnapped near by a week ago. Scandinavian diplomats succeeded yesterday in

restarting negotiations for the release of the Lebanese. Mr Jan Stenning, aged 44, a Swede, and Mr William Joergensen, aged 57, a Norwegian, according to UN sources. They said Mr Mustapha Saad, a Sunni Muslim leader, had had several contacts with Palestinian officials in Sidon on freeing

the men. Mr Ingemar Stjernberg, the Swedish Ambassador to Lebanon, said that gunmen yesterday seized two Swedish television journalists on Beirut's airport highway soon after their arrival from Paris, then released them. They had been mistaken for West Germans.

Canada to boost its defence spending

From John Best, Ottawa

Canada is to increase its defence spending by 6.2 per cent in the economic year beginning on April 1, in line with an important military re-equipment programme announced last year.

In a budget announcement to the House of Commons yesterday, Mr Michael Wilson, the Finance Minister, said that defence expenditure would rise to \$11,090 billion

(about £5 billion) next year, an increase of \$650 million.

This marks the first step in a programme to fund billions of dollars' worth of new equipment for the armed forces, as outlined in the Conservative Government's defence White Paper unveiled in June. Centrepiece of the programme is the controversial \$2.8 billion purchase of a fleet of nuclear-powered submarines.

The Government is expected to choose in about four months between competing French and British designs.

Mr Wilson told the House of Commons that the spending increase—which defence officials estimated at about 2.7 per cent in real terms—would start the implementation of the White Paper's proposals "in a manner consistent with fiscal principles".

The budget was otherwise a standard affair, with only a few minor tax changes. It was intended to offer Canadians a rosy picture of the national economy in anticipation of a federal election, which is widely expected this autumn.

Mr Wilson said that as a result of tax reforms that went into effect on January 1, about 850,000 lower-income earners would pay no income tax.

Civil war in Sudan

Rebels tighten grip as famine threatens Juba

From Andrew Bucknole, Juba

When the Nile Safaris Boeing 707 got to Juba, perching 10,000ft below on a bend in the White Nile, it went into a steep-banked, spiralling dive on to the airstrip.

A normal approach could expose us to the missiles of the Sudan People's Liberation Army, which is increasingly isolating the former southern capital after four years of war against the Muslim-backed Government in the north.

The charter company's Boeing, with British pilot and aircrew, is the only aircraft carrying civilian passengers on the 700-mile run from Khartoum. Sudan Airways' staff have refused the bonuses they were offered for the run.

The SPLA has threatened repeatedly to shoot down the plane, like two other civilian aircraft in the war, on the ground that it is carrying military supplies. It is behind my seat, the fuselage was filled with racks of green canisters which, I was told, contained artillery ammunition.

Once you get into Juba, however, it is surprising to see that many of the things the SPLA are fighting for are already happening. The Arab-influenced turban and galabiyah of Khartoum are replaced by the western styles of black Africa. Black Africans run the government offices.

People work on Friday, the Muslim holy day, and not Saturday and Sunday. Beer and whisky, though scarce, are on sale in bars and clubs, in open defiance of the Sharia (Islamic) law whose repeal is the SPLA's foremost cause.

On the surface, the town seems like a sleepy colonial outpost, crumbling in the torrid heat. But this image arises mainly because petrol costs £500 a gallon—equivalent to half the average monthly wage—and the sorghum and maize staples are running out.

There are only two main sources of activity in Juba, the regional Government and the relief agencies. The Government has little to govern, much of the hinterland being controlled by the SPLA, and the relief agencies have had no basic foodstuffs to distribute to the 35,000 displaced people in camps around Juba.

A convoy is expected soon on the road from Yei, Juba's only surface link with the outside world, but it will be the first since January 18, and may be the last before the rains start in March, when the supply routes through Uganda and Zaire become difficult, if not impassable.

The average worker, supporting a large family and several relatives who have fled from the countryside, cannot afford present prices, let alone further increases. There are still six months before the next harvest is due and food becomes available from the area around the town.

No deaths from starvation have yet been reported, but when I visited the camp at Kadara, three miles from Juba

on the east bank of the Nile, with a medical team, about 10 of the 60 children we saw showed the thin limbs and swollen bellies of severe malnutrition.

The Government has promised an urgent relief airlift to build up stocks in Juba, but the four to five trips a day made by the Nile Safaris Boeing and a Sudan Airways cargo jet are currently devoted to military supplies. They are not expected to be committed to relief for another fortnight.

The Government has also promised to retake Kapoeta, a small town 200 miles east of Juba which fell to the SPLA early in January. It appears that this military objective takes preference over the provision of food for the south.

The Army has been commandeering lorries from traders in Juba for some time, but when last week it took seven provided by Oxfam for the combined agencies relief team which pools the resources of relief agencies in Juba, aid



workers wondered how long they would be able to distribute relief food even if it arrived in Juba.

The seizure provoked a strong protest from the British Government, which paid for the vehicles, but the Army took over another three on Monday. Government sources said on Tuesday the Army had been ordered to return all of them, but it is not known if it has complied.

The Army is reacting to signs of the SPLA's growing strength and confidence. The fall of Kapoeta followed the costly eviction of the rebels from Kurmuk and Gassan, two villages on the Ethiopian border in Blue Nile province which were taken by the rebels in November. Blue Nile had been considered firmly part of the north and out of the SPLA's reach.

All these actions have taken place in the dry season, when the Army's greater mobility usually gives it the upper hand. Retaking Kapoeta will be much harder than winning back Kurmuk and Gassan.

There is growing speculation that the wet season will contain the SPLA's cutting the road to Yei and beginning a formal siege of Juba, as well as possibly making conventional assaults on the other two important garrison towns in southern Sudan, Wau and Malakal. They are even shorter of food than Juba. In Wau, the Army, police and tribal militias have been fighting each other.

There are rumours that a 3,000-strong SPLA force has gathered a few miles east of Juba. Heavy shelling heard throughout Saturday morning was believed to be directed at the suspected positions, but no confirmation was available from the Army.

Nobody has much idea what happens further away in the wildernesses of southern Sudan. It took nearly two weeks to confirm that Kapoeta had fallen. Lord Salisbury commented in 1897: "It is, of course, as difficult to judge what is going on in the Upper Nile as it is to judge what is going on on the other side of the Moon." We now know more about the Moon.

EEC plans world food conference

From Michael Dynes, Brussels

Lord Plimh, the President of the European Parliament, yesterday announced plans to hold the first international world food conference in an effort to find ways of correcting global food imbalances.

The two-day conference, scheduled to begin in Brussels on April 7, will be attended by food production experts from the EEC, North America, Japan, Australia, the Soviet Union and the Third World.

The conference will explore ways of reducing agricultural surpluses in the developed countries, and of improving agricultural production in the Third World.

Lord Plimh appealed to

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صلى الله عليه وسلم

Kremlin ends psychiatric unit controls by the police

From Christopher Walker, Moscow

Control of the notorious special Soviet psychiatric hospitals, which have frequently been used to punish dissidents who are believed to be clinically sane, is to be switched next month from the police to the health ministry.

At present, the hospitals treating patients judged to have committed "socially dangerous actions" and to be in need of intensive observation are administered by the Ministry of Interior or MVD, and most of the medical staff wear uniforms.

The latest move to end the abuse of psychiatry inside the Soviet Union was announced yesterday by Mr Alexander Churkin, the Health Ministry's chief psychiatrist, who appeared at a news conference — the first of its kind ever held here — entitled "Psychiatry and Glasnost".

Mr Churkin, who attempted

cal personnel of special psychiatric hospitals hold rank in the MVD.

"One of the main complaints about these institutions is that considerations of security and discipline are given complete priority over considerations of the medical well-being of the inmates."

"Inmates are subject to a strict regime... they are under constant supervision. Lights are on all night in the wards. (Inmates) are expected to obey orders given them by any of the staff. This policy is made particularly dangerous and inhumane by the heinous practice of recruiting convicted criminal prisoners from the corrective labour institutions to serve as orderlies in such hospitals."

Under the new mental health regulations, passed by the Supreme Soviet in January but not yet published in full, some of the special hospitals — often situated in bleak former prison buildings — will be closed, while others will be converted into hospitals for violent mental patients in need of strict control.

Moscow — Anatoly Karavayev, former Minister of Motor Transport in the notoriously corrupt Central Asian republic of Kazakhstan, was sentenced yesterday to 13 years in jail for corruption (Christopher Walker writes). He was also ordered to forfeit his personal property. Jail sentences were imposed on 100 other people from the republic for similar offences.

to refute widespread allegations of Soviet psychiatric abuses, said the change in hospital administration was part of a wider reform of the mental health services which will take effect from March 1.

Although western diplomats see the move as an attempt to improve the image of Soviet psychiatry, the official described it as a "logical reorganization" unconnected with alleged abuses.

The change will be welcomed by human rights pressure groups in the West, who have long regarded special Soviet mental institutions — known as SPHs — as among the grimmest forms of punishment used to try to break the spirit of political and religious dissenters.

A chilling report prepared by Amnesty International states: "According to all accounts, not only the security and administrative staff, but virtually all the leading medi-

cal personnel of special psychiatric hospitals hold rank in the MVD. "One of the main complaints about these institutions is that considerations of security and discipline are given complete priority over considerations of the medical well-being of the inmates."

"Inmates are subject to a strict regime... they are under constant supervision. Lights are on all night in the wards. (Inmates) are expected to obey orders given them by any of the staff. This policy is made particularly dangerous and inhumane by the heinous practice of recruiting convicted criminal prisoners from the corrective labour institutions to serve as orderlies in such hospitals."

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Iran marks anniversary with attacks



Tagboats fighting a blaze on board the 290,762-tonne Norwegian tanker Happy Karl, which was attacked in the southern Gulf by an Iranian frigate yesterday, the ninth anniversary of Iran's Islamic revolution. The attack came as Iran, in a statement to mark the anniversary, vowed to continue its 7½-year war with Iraq

(Nicholas Beeston writes). Thousands of marchers, including war veterans and young radicals, paraded through the streets of Tehran to a rally where Iranian leaders reaffirmed the country's commitment to continue the fight and to resist interference from foreign powers. The celebrations across Iran were in sharp

contrast to those during the past three years, when marches were accompanied by broadcasts from the war front on the progress of the latest offensive. But as Iran's leadership addressed the crowds both Tehran and Baghdad claimed their aircraft had gone into action against enemy targets.

Cypriot presidential election

Dark horse tycoon upsets odds

From Mario Modiano, Nicosia

The most intriguing of the four main candidates in Sunday's Cypriot presidential election is a political newcomer and a millionaire whose main support comes from the island's hard-boiled Communist Party, Akel.

At the age of 56, Mr George Vasilou has been a Swiss medical school drop-out, a factory worker, Hungarian-trained economist, and graduate student in London. He returned to Cyprus in 1962 to build up a consultancy and marketing business which has become highly successful, with interests in 11 countries and a staff of 250.

The picture-window in his private office on the top floor of his marble and glass building in Nicosia affords a breathtaking view of the Pentadactylus range which buttresses Cyprus's northern coastline, now inaccessible to the Greek Cypriots. Waving towards the large Turkish flag outlined with stones on the mountain slope, he said: "We must build bridges of trust with the Turkish Cypriots. Turkey must be persuaded that a fair settlement is to its advantage."

With four candidates running for presidential office, the outcome of the poll among 350,000 Greek Cypriot voters seems more uncertain than ever. A second round between the top two contenders the following Sunday appears inevitable.

All agree that one of them will be Mr Glavkos Clerides, aged 68, avuncular conservative leader of the opposition Democratic Rally, which polled 34 per cent in the last parliamentary elections. But who will be his challenger?

Greek Cypriots are now prosperous enough to feel uneasy about change. This gives an edge to President Kyprianou, who has been in power for 11 years and is running for a third term.

Under his administration, the per capita income soared from £Cyp890 (£1,100) to £Cyp3,200 (about £4,000) in 1987. The main criticism of the President, however, is his lack of progress towards a solution of the Cyprus problem 13 years after the Turkish invasion of the island. As a rival candidate put it: "He has in him the destructive power of inertia."

His critics maintain that after his clash with Akel three years ago, Mr Kyprianou indulged in large-scale patronage that broadened the power base of his Democratic Party from 19 to 27 per cent, but also leaned heavily on the support of Mr Andreas Papandreu, the Greek Prime Minister.

Now he probably feels the rug being pulled from under his feet. The unexpected rapprochement between Turkey and Greece is making the Greek Cypriots nervous: they do not know how it can affect their lives.

The main contest will be between President Kyprianou, representing the centre, and Mr Vasilou, who asserts that he has neither political affiliations nor commitments. But the fact that his late father was founding member of Akel in the early 1940s must stand him in good stead. Akel usually influences one out of every three voters here.

Mr Vasilou's long absence from Cyprus may have freed him from the prejudices that run rife on this divided island. But his rivals point to his lack

of political experience and almost invariably denounce him as a crypto-communist or a British agent.

Sunday's result might have been a foregone conclusion if Dr Vassos Lyssarides, aged 67, the president of Parliament whose Socialists have an 11 per cent share of the electorate, had chosen the role of kingmaker rather than to stand himself. He says he did so simply because he dislikes equally the other two non-conservative candidates. "The choice is between cyanide and arsenic," he says.

If Mr Kyprianou enters the second round, Akel will probably support him rather than Mr Clerides, whose party it accuses of having harboured right-wing extremists responsible for the 1974 coup attempt which triggered the Turkish invasion.

The chances of Mr Clerides will increase substantially if the runner-up is Mr Vasilou. The general feeling is that Mr Kyprianou's centrist followers would then support the conservative candidate rather than the man they dub "Akel's capitalist candidate."

Goria the victim as his party's warlords fall out

From Roger Boyes, Rome

Italy, which this week lost its 47th government since the fall of fascism, is under urgent pressure to reform its political system. President Cossiga spent yesterday consulting former heads of state and other political sages in an effort to cobble together a new administration to replace that of Signor Giovanni Goria, who resigned on Wednesday night.

Signor Goria, aged 44, is continuing in office until the President finds an alternative. Yesterday Signor Goria represented Italy at the European summit meeting in Brussels, and his ministers will meet for regular caretaker Cabinet sessions.

The Prime Minister was brought down essentially by his own Christian Democrat Party rather than by the traditional tension between the party and Signor Bettino Craxi's Socialists. A sprawling budget Bill that seeks to regulate every aspect of Italian financial life gave back-bench rebels the chance to side with opposition Communists and push through amendment after amendment.

Signor Goria lost no fewer than 17 votes in the three-month struggle for the 1988 budget, and had to lever the most crucial items through Parliament with six votes of confidence. He says that the root of the problem is the secret parliamentary ballot, which makes a nonsense of party discipline. But more and more, the nature of the crisis seems to be in the structure of his own party. Having been in power since the Second World War, but continually obliged to strike deals with coalition partners, it harbours several competing factions.

In many ways it resembles a group of tribes, each headed by a regional warlord; blood sacrifices are made, marriages of convenience are struck to heal feuds. In the run-up to the Christian Democrat congress in the spring, the loose consensus between the party warlords has broken up, and Signor Goria is the principal victim of the dispute.

The main problem seems to revolve around the party sec-

retary, Signor Ciriaco de Mita. He has served two terms as party leader and has mastered the art of *partitocrazia* — government that is exercised through party headquarters rather than Parliament.

If there is a row in the government coalition, Signor de Mita (who is not in the Government) picks up a telephone and talks with Signor Craxi (who is also not in the Government). Together they work out a deal, and the Prime Minister is informed.

The Goria Government, which lasted a creditable 200 days, has had enough. Signor



Signor Goria: Faction fights behind the political scenes. Goria was overcome not only by back-bench rebels but also by a central paradox of Italian politics: that to reform the system he has first to reform the system.

An end to the strict regime of proportional representation would, for example, make for fewer and presumably stronger parties, as well as more stable government. But to introduce the necessary changes, he would have to gain the support of the smaller parties who would be voting for their own destruction.

If this were the only logical problem facing Italian politicians, they would indeed be a happy breed. But in the meantime, they are fighting tribal politics with a distinctly cannibalistic tendency. As one Christian Democrat, Signor Nino Cristofori, put it so graphically yesterday: "The successor to Signor Goria is destined to be skewered."

Leading article, page 13

The Hoskyns Annual Report & Accounts



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KENCO
It's what best friends share
on Valentine's day

Hunt for Bophuthatswana opposition leader as security forces mop up

Pretoria says ANC may be connected with coup attempt

Mmabatho (Reuters) — South Africa said yesterday that the outlawed African National Congress may have been linked to an attempted coup in the nominally-independent black homeland of Bophuthatswana as its forces helped to round up dissidents there after crushing the revolt. Mmabatho, the sleepy capital of the tiny homeland that is best known for its entertainment resort of Sun City, was meanwhile quiet.

Mr R.F. "Pik" Botha, the South African Foreign Minister, speaking in Cape Town, said the opposition leader Rocky "The Rock" Molebane-Metsing, whom the army had planned to install, had fled and was being hunted.

Mr Botha said President Mangoshe was in good health. "He is in full control. His Government is back in power with his police force and a substantial section of his Defence Force," he told reporters.

Security forces had rounded up 150 dissidents after the coup attempt, which claimed

three or four lives, Mr Botha said.

Mr Botha defended South Africa's actions, saying it had been asked to help by a legally-elected government which had been overthrown by force. He said Pretoria would do the same under similar circumstances in a country such as neighbouring Botswana.

Asked about media reports linking the coup and the ANC, Mr Botha replied: "There is a suspicion because of certain elements of the UDF and ANC." The UDF (United Democratic Front) is South Africa's biggest anti-apartheid organization. Pretoria often accuses it of being a front for the exiled ANC.

Mr Botha's assertion was immediately rejected by Mrs Winnie Mandela, wife of Mr Nelson Mandela, the jailed ANC leader.

"The ANC has nothing to do with the events in the puppet state of Bophuthatswana," she told a news conference in Johannesburg.

"Bophuthatswana is of no consequence to the ANC, it is a non-issue."

The coup attempt was quelled within hours by South African troops in armoured personnel carriers. Soldiers leapt from helicopters to rescue President Mangoshe from rebel soldiers, who had threatened to pour petrol over him and burn him alive unless he resigned.

The coup leaders cited widespread corruption as the main reason for their action.

In Mmabatho, combined units of South African and Bophuthatswana police rooted out small groups of mutinous soldiers hiding in government buildings.

Bophuthatswana, whose independence is recognized only by South Africa, draws much of its revenue from the Las Vegas-style resort of Sun City.

Two successive governments of another homeland, Transkei, were toppled in military coups last September and December, but South Africa did not intervene.



South African troops in Mmabatho guard soldiers involved in the attempted coup after their leader had fled.

Vietnam to free 6,400 political enemies

Hanoi (AFP) — Vietnam has announced the release of 6,406 people held in jails and re-education camps, including 1,014 officers and supporters of the former South Vietnamese government.

The Deputy Information Minister, Mr Phan Quang, said that 159 supporters of the former government remain in the camps after the latest releases to mark next week's lunar new year.

More than 500 of the 1,014 prisoners to be freed today are former members of the South Vietnamese army, including 11 generals, 121 colonels and 35 Catholic, Protestant and Buddhist military chaplains.

Execution halt

Huntsville, Texas (AP) — Calvin Williams, aged 27, a murderer who had vowed to fight his executioners, won a stay 90 minutes before he was to be put to death by lethal injection. It was his fourth execution date.

Chinese veto

Peking (AFP) — China rejected a request by Japan and South Korea for an urgent UN Security Council meeting over the sabotage of the South Korean airliner that killed all 115 people on board.

Somalia plea

The EEC and the US appealed to President Siad Barre of Somalia to show clemency to eight prisoners sentenced to death on charges of treason allegedly committed in 1982.

Athlete jailed

Adelaide (AP) — Reg Spiers, a former Australian javelin champion who avoided a Sri Lankan death sentence for drug smuggling, was jailed for 10 years for conspiring to import hashish.

Official's guilt

Peking (AP) — Mr Ding Guangrong, Minister of Railways, took responsibility for three rail crashes which killed 141 people, and asked the Government to punish him.

£1m hijack

Hong Kong (AFP) — Five men hijacked a van loaded with gold in the Kai Tak airport tunnel and fled with gold and cash worth \$HK15.4 million (£1.1 million).

Battle over Okinawa suicides

From David Watts, Tokyo

The last desperate days of the Battle of Okinawa are being re-fought in court, in an attempt to have the Japanese Government recognize the full import of history.

In a heart-rending resurrection of one of the most tragic episodes at the end of the Pacific war, a university professor recalled the day he killed his mother and siblings after a "suicide order" from the Japanese Imperial Army.

His testimony was given to a two-day hearing of the Tokyo district court being held at the battle site, the latest stage in the long-running campaign between academics and the Government over the proper presentation of history in the country's school textbooks.

This case is one of three being brought by Professor Saburo Ienaga, emeritus pro-

fessor of education of Tokyo University, a tireless proponent of telling Japanese history as it really was.

Professor Ienaga's textbooks were screened by the Ministry of Education, and the reality of the mass suicides were purged from his account. He is claiming two million yen (about £9,000) from the Government.

Professor Ienaga's section on Okinawa was amended to read: "Okinawa people died fruitlessly such as in mass suicides, but not a few were killed by the Japanese Army."

The court made the extraordinary move to Naha in Okinawa in recognition of the importance of the dispute over what really happened when hundreds of victims are supposed to have committed suicide rather than be captured.

Professor Shigeaki Kinjo, of Okinawa Christian Junior College, who was 16 when he survived the ordeal, told the hearing: "I thought at the time killing loved ones was an act of love, so that they would not face capture by the enemy. Because I loved them I had to kill my mother and younger siblings."

He said mass killings and suicides began a day after the Japanese rounded up the residents of Tokashiki Island on March 27, 1945, the day after the Americans landed.

He said that after reports that the military had issued a "suicide order" some killed themselves with hand grenades while others killed family members with razors or sickles.

Professor Masahide Ota, of the University of the Ryukyus, said that at least 298 people were killed by the Japanese Army. Another 824 died in mass suicides, 483 of whom killed themselves under the orders of the Japanese Army, according to research in Okinawa and at the National Defence Agency.

The professor believes that two thirds of the victims died after June 23, 1945, when the fighting was almost over, and suspects the Army murdered them.

In his book *The Pacific War*, Professor Ienaga says that in the Okinawa campaign 50,000 US troops were killed or wounded while Japanese forces suffered 110,000 killed.

The battle and the fact that many Okinawans still do not feel part of the Japanese nation means that even today feelings remain strong.

Bangladesh poll deaths rise to 110 as rivals fight it out

From Ahmed Fazl, Dhaka

The death toll in violence which has swept Bangladesh during local government elections rose to 110 yesterday. The flood plains became virtual "killing fields" as supporters of rival candidates for village mayors shot one another and slit throats.

Reports said yesterday that another 7,000 had been injured in the worst election violence in the country's 17-year history.

The extent of the disturbances has unnerved the Government of President Ershad, which plans a crucial parliamentary election for March 3. The main opposition groups, the Awami League and the Bangladesh National-

ist Party, are boycotting the national election.

Sangbad, the influential daily, said that voting had to be stopped in over 3,000 of an estimated 20,000 polling centres in 64 districts as armed gangs overpowered police guards and took ballot boxes. One election officer was stabbed to death.

Earlier reports said that 85 people had died and that 5,000 others had been injured. The official news agency put the death toll at 39.

About 135,000 candidates contested the offices of more than 4,000 mayors and 39,000 councillors in the village *parishads* (councils), but the electoral commission failed to announce any results until last

night because of the rioting.

The worst violence happened in Munshiganj district, about 30 miles east of Dhaka and a stronghold of the ruling Jatiya Party, where nine people were shot dead. Seven deaths were reported in Chittagong province, while five others died in the Southern Hill province.

Others were killed in bomb blasts and in arson attacks. A local government party leader was clubbed to death in central Mymensingh and the body of a candidate found hacked in a rice field in the coastal district of Bhola.

Officials said that clan feuds, blood rivalries and land disputes dominated the 10-day electioneering campaign.



DEREK HATTON: MY SIDE OF THE STORY

"Now I tell my side of the story, of Liverpool, Militant, the Labour Party, my family—and the media."

Beginning this Sunday exclusively in The Sunday Times, Derek Hatton reveals why he despises Neil Kinnock as the 'worst leader the Labour Party has ever had'.

GCSE

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS IN THE SUNDAY TIMES THIS SUNDAY.

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THE SUNDAY TIMES
The perfect Sunday

SPECTRUM

Ninety years of a passion in red

With his distinctive prancing horse emblem, Enzo Ferrari has roared through every decade of this century. Now, on the eve of his 90th birthday, Roger Boyes looks back at the ghosts and glories of a lifetime in the fast lane

There is not a straight line in a Ferrari. Look at it closely from any angle, sideways, face on, or crouched down like a car thief, and it gradually dawns that the machine is completely asymmetrical; not a matching plane in sight. The same could be said of Enzo Ferrari, the grand old man of the racing car industry, the inventor, designer, engineer of Italy's fastest and sleekest cars.

He is tall, ungainly, frequently rude, bullies his friends, has a monumental ego and, if you survive all that, considerable charm. Next Thursday, February 18, he celebrates his 90th birthday, 90 years of crashing through life.

That life has been the history of the internal combustion engine; and Ferrari's passion is for the race track. It began at the age of 10, in 1908, when he accompanied his father and elder brother, Alfredo, to the Bologna circuit. There he saw Felice Nazzaro win at what seemed to be an unbelievable speed: 60 miles an hour.

His father ran a metal-working shop outside Modena, modifying axles for the railway industry. He wanted Enzo to be an engineer, a respectable professional, not a grease monkey. Enzo had other ideas, passing through the phases of wanting to be an opera singer and a sports journalist, and ending up committed to the infant sport of motor racing. When his father expanded the workshop to include car repairs, the issue was settled. By the age of 13, Enzo had learnt to drive.

At the beginning of the century the automobile had the same kind of romantic compulsion as space travel in the 1960s: a sense of new frontiers, and new heroes. Italians, in Tom Wolfe's phrase, had the right stuff — Nazzaro, Vincenzo Lancia, Giuseppe Campari, Tazio Nuvolari. Knowing that he wanted to be a racing, and not a military hero, the First World War was something of an irritation.

Conscripted into the Mountain Artillery, he told his colonel that he was a skilled mechanic and, with typical military contrariness, spent most of the war shoeing pack mules. Then he fell ill and was invalided out of the service.

He tried unsuccessfully to find a job with Fiat, but struck lucky as a test driver with CMN, Costruzioni Meccaniche Nazionali.

This was the start of the passenger car revolution in Europe. After the war, entrepreneurs were busily adopting light truck chassis for passenger vehicles. It was a good time for test drivers and a good, if rugged, time for racers.

Competition had a different feel about it in those days. In 1919, Ferrari and his close friend, Ugo Sivocci, set out from Milan to take part in the Targa Florio race in Sicily. They had to drive their racing car the length of Italy to get to the track. Ploughing their way through the deep snow of the Abruzzi Mountains, they were attacked by hungry wolves and had to fend them off with a revolver (standard equipment for racing drivers then).

They arrived in Palermo in time for the start, but a petrol tank promptly dropped off. Enzo made rapid repairs. He was beginning to catch up with the rest of the field when police stopped him and made him wait until a local politician had finished making a speech in the market square. Yelling insults at politicians, Ferrari managed to finish, but as he remembers ruefully, "the time-keepers and spectators had already left on the last train to Palermo".

Ferrari's racing career improved. After one victory at Ravenna, in 1923, an old man pushed through the cheering crowd and gave him a charred piece of fabric, a black prancing horse on a yellow background. It was the last remnant of the Italian fighter ace Francesco Baracca who, after shooting down 35 planes, died in flames during the war. The man was Baracca's father, and Ferrari, deeply touched, adopted the symbol for all of his cars.

There is something in Ferrari's abrupt manner that reminds one of great horse trainers. Certainly, the equine imagery is there. When, in 1929, he set up his own Ferrari team under the umbrella of Alfa Romeo, it was known as a



From 0-90 at full gallop: Enzo Ferrari and the fighter ace's emblem, and (below) in 1923 at Monza, Ferrari (far left) with Nicola Romeo, founder of Alfa Romeo and Giorgio Rini, who sold Ferrari his first racing car

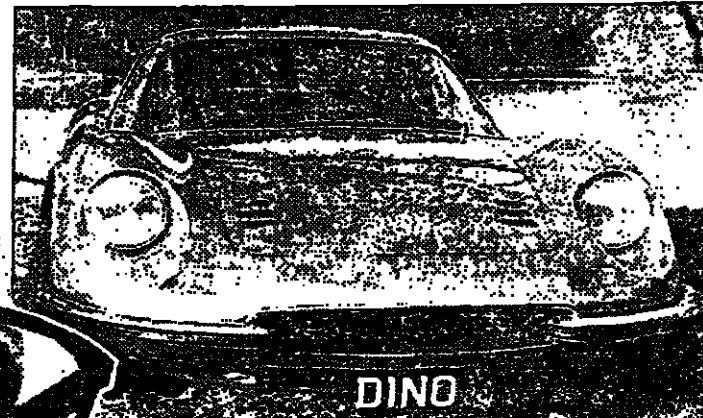
Scuderia — a stable. His cars were described as steeds, his drivers as jockeys. Alfa supplied the machinery, Ferrari mechanics tuned and modified, and the jockeys won some of the best races in the world.

By this time, Ferrari himself was no longer to be seen at the wheel of the racing cars. First illness, and then, in 1932, the birth

of his son, Dino, persuaded him to hand over to younger drivers. The break with Alfa and the decision to make his own cars was a typical bit of Ferrari biography. First, Ferrari's protector gets nervous, wants quick results, tries to interfere, and finally gives orders. At this point, Ferrari walks out. It has happened again and

again. After the Second World War, Ferrari cars had begun to make a real mark on the racing world. At the same time, the sculpted sports cars were being eagerly snapped up by heads of state and film stars. But to support the racing, Ferrari again needed a commercial protector.

Negotiations were opened with



DINO

Wounds: a Ferrari Dino, named after the son who died in 1956

Ford in 1962, and almost from the moment the Americans walked in, it was plain that there was to be an epic struggle between the car producer as a bureaucratic monolith, and the car producer as an eccentric lover of engines.

Under the proposed agreement, Ford would essentially run the sports car division, with Ferrari keeping a 10 per cent stake, while Ferrari would run the racing cars. In trooped the huge team of Ford lawyers, accountants and hatchmen. Ferrari had only one adviser. Every three minutes, one of the Ford team would leave to ring Detroit. Ferrari thought they had bowel problems.

Ferrari has a standard Italian metabolism, getting up late and working late, happy to have dinner at midnight. The Ford men were 9 to 5 creatures, and completely exhausted.

Eventually, when Ford began to stipulate what races Ferrari should win, the old man exploded. "The answer the Ford men gave me," Ferrari recalls, "was calculated to humiliate. They said: 'But Mr Ferrari, you are selling your company — you cannot pretend to dispose of it as you wish.'"

Nowadays, Ferrari's commercial protector is Fiat. And the old man is happy enough, stalking his Maranello works as a laird patrols his estates. To some extent, Ferrari lives with his ghosts. All retired racing drivers have lost friends on the track, but Ferrari has lost more than most. Almost every 90-year-old has survived his school-mates, but Ferrari seems to have been more marked than others. When his son Dino died of muscular dystrophy in 1956, he was deeply wounded; some of the zeal for victory left him. His confidants have all been taken by the track, by the two wars, or by age and disease. Ferrari's chief designer says he is as "closed as a walnut", but he cries easily at death, or opera, or a track victory.

He tries to bridge the gap with other generations, but only values

and engines really unite them. The company is run by his adopted son, the off-spring of a former mistress, and he is content that after his death the cars will still be controlled by a Ferrari.

He is an isolated figure, isolated even from the racing that is his passion. On a wide-screen television, he watches the races, receiving briefings by telephone from his team manager; he has not been seen at the track on race-day since Dino's death. The combination of autocratic style and limited information does not make for an altogether happy court. There are considerable jealousies.

Enzo Ferrari has an important say in who should be brought in, but cannot protect them if the team performs poorly. It is difficult to assess his impact on strategy nowadays. Certainly the company is sensitive to his prejudices and has postponed some important decisions out of respect for the old man.

The fact that Ferrari cars are not plastered with sponsors' badges is his decision (although Marlboro pays his drivers' massive retainers and in return receives a discreet shield on the sides of the cockpits). There is a feeling within the company that commercial sponsorship should be reviewed, but there will be no open discussion of the issue in the founder's lifetime. In any case, Enzo's instinct is often right: Italian racing red has become as effective as any trademark.

In celebration of his achievements, it was announced this week that the Pope will in June visit Ferrari at Modena. Ferrari himself has not been to Rome since 1935, and does not feel the lack. The car is all: he leaves his villa and covers the short distance to the factory and the test track, patrols the shop floor, his wide nose twitching, his dark glasses protecting him from the curious, and he touches his machines, softly, softly.

In a Rotten cause

Rotten Row, in London's Hyde Park, bridleway and leafy promenade to bygone smart sets, is approaching its 300th anniversary and, with luck, the beginning of a revived sporting role. John Evelyn recorded in 1690 that a "straight new way" to London had been cut through the park. Its first function was as a royal carriage road, but by the late 18th century it was the place for the fashionable to ride and — more importantly — be seen riding.

By the late 18th century it fulfilled much the same purpose that the King's Road in nearby Chelsea does today but with the emphasis on wealth, privilege and equestrianism. Sheridan ridiculed the "gayer spark" of the 1780s who sped across town "anxious yet and humorous too! — his steed to show/The hack Bucephalus of Rotten Row".

Neill Mitchell, chairman of a committee set up to celebrate the tercentenary in 1990, said: "A young man would show off his horse there, perhaps of a kind new to Britain, as he might his sports car nowadays."

Mitchell, one of a dwindling band of riders in the park, and his committee, hope to usher in a new era, starting with an appeal for £150,000 to restore

A new era could be on the way for the bridleway of the smart set — in time to celebrate its 300th anniversary



Hyde Park's horsey heyday: Rotten Row seen 100 years ago

two miles of cast-iron railings to the Row: the originals were removed for scrap during the Second World War. "Until then, Hyde Park contained miles of decorative railings," he said.

"Since it lost its social prominence after the war, and many of the stables around it closed, Rotten Row has been taken very much for granted."

"But it is a first-class sporting facility which could be made available, through more

stabling, to a broader section of the public. Four-and-a-half miles of bridleway in the middle of a city is quite a remarkable thing. To set it up from scratch would be a multi-million pound undertaking. As it is, we have the raw material." Three of the original 1793 bollards, which supported the railings, survive on the Row and the plan is to set up another 2,000.

The road was first made in 1690 to run from Kensington Palace — which had been taken over as a country residence by King William III and Queen Mary — to Westminster. At first the Row was a haunt of 17th century muggers, but after a Hyde Park highwayman was hanged for the murder of a woman who swallowed her wedding ring rather than surrender it to him, the road was lit by 300 lamps suspended from the trees.

Before it was superseded by a better road to the south, the carriage way is said to have been known as the Route du Roi, later corrupted to Rotten Row. Another theory is that the name is based on the German word "Rotteran", to muster. But Henry B. Wadley, the author of *London Past and Present*, published in 1891, poured scorn on "absurd etymologies" and declared: "The most probable is the apparent one — that it is called after the rotten soil of which it is composed."

John A. Hill

FINDINGS

A weekly series on research

EGYPTOLOGY

Israeli archaeology continues to surprise. At Tell Abu Salihin, some 35 miles south-west of Gaza, is a huge mud-brick building with many inner chambers, perhaps as much as a kilometre square. Petrie, the first excavator, took it to be a temple; but an Israeli scholar has now identified the structure as an enormous hyper-market, a fortified trading-station, possibly for the sale of wine, oil and other perishable foodstuffs (*Israel Exploration Journal* vol 34). This could well be the "sealed town of Egypt", a commercial centre which the Assyrian King Sargon is known to have taken by force in 720BC. John Ray

METEOROLOGY

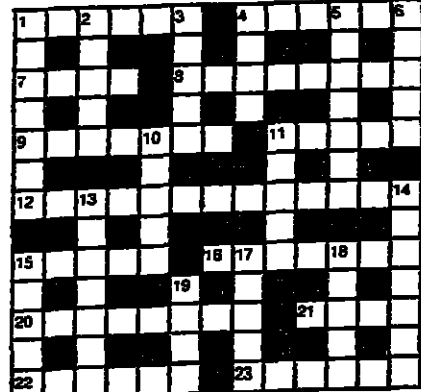
A warm thought for mid-winter: air-conditioners, all turned on at peak times, are a real problem for American electricity generation companies, but studies at the Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory in California suggest that trees, judiciously planted, might be the answer. Boosting urban shade by 25 per cent could reduce annual domestic energy use by up to 40 per cent and cut the peak demand by 20 to 40 per cent. W.J. Burroughs

GEOLOGY

Colonization of the barren Martian surface may be feasible if a new theory suggesting that water exists just below the surface is correct. By studying the debris patterns on the slopes of Martian volcanoes, geologists at Lancaster and Hawaii universities have concluded that explosive eruptions must have taken place, charged with water and carbon dioxide. The ground water brought to the surface by volcanic eruptions was subsequently lost from the Martian atmosphere, along with the carbon dioxide. The new findings suggest that there are probably large quantities of water up to 1.5km below the surface, still waiting to be tapped. Simon Elzy

CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 1487

- ACROSS
1 Opposed (6)
4 Very happy (6)
7 Chinese dynasty 1279-1368 (4)
8 Newcastle disease (4,4)
9 Hollyhock genus (7)
11 Burial vigils (5)
12 Aviation doctor (6,7)
15 Heavy Burgundy (5)
16 Barkless dog (7)
20 Lincoln/Exeter Roman road (5,3)
21 Chinese nurse (4)
22 Aimless, drifting (6)
23 Alloy joint (6)

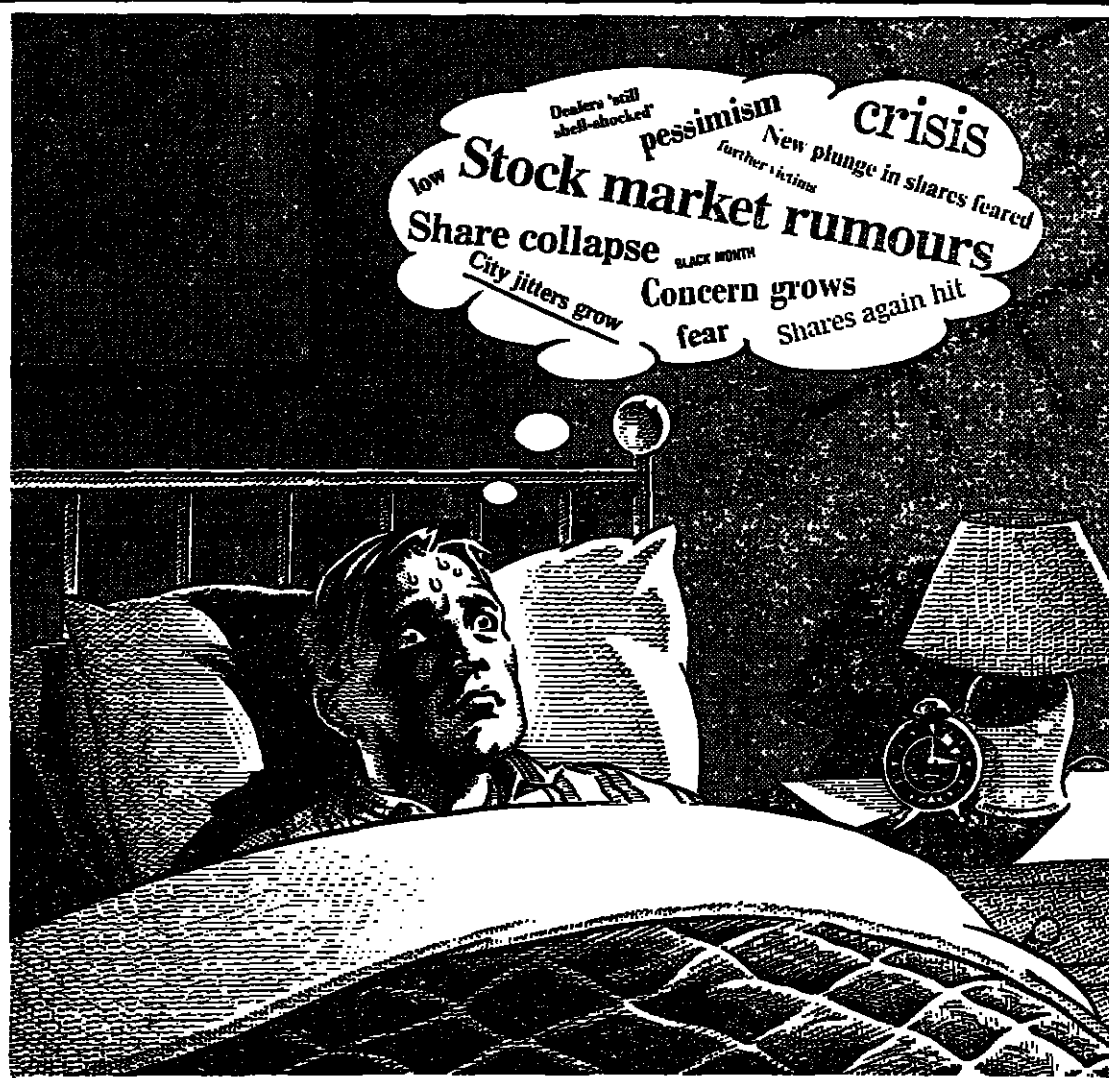


DOWN

- 1 Stand-off half (3,4)
2 Score (5)
3 Tactless remark (5)
4 Cheek (4)
5 Lentigo (7)
6 Mythological trance (4,4)
10 Pallid (5)
11 Clock parts (5)
13 Chisel-edged tooth (7)
14 Not either (7)
15 Sicilian crime org. (5)
17 Chasm (5)
18 Wanderer (5)
19 Strike sharply (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 1486

ACROSS: 1 Pinnacle 4 Waiver 9 Canasta 10 Lanes 11 Hope 12 Deviate 14 Tin Pan Ally 18 Apparel 19 Akin 22 Fills 24 Emigrant 25 Events 26 Angler
DOWN: 1 Pace 2 Mango 3 Dissembler 5 Awe 6 Vantage 7 Rosier 8 Dardanelles 11 Hit 13 Valuation 15 Impulse 16 Yen 17 Baffler 20 Ideal 21 Stir 23 Sea



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A RADICAL PAY ROUND

The Government's increased emphasis on greater flexibility in setting public sector pay is welcome as far as it goes. For some years now the pay review bodies have been urged to take account of supply and demand as well as other factors in making their recommendations, though this has not always been evident in their reports. Progress in rewarding merit in the Civil Service has been painfully slow. Now is the moment for a further push forward.

Pay structures throughout the economy are gradually changing - which is partly the cause of the current industrial unrest. There are other more traditional causes such as the lure of increasing company profits and the reduced fear of unemployment as the numbers out of work fall. In the National Health Service there is a growing sense of frustration which goes deeper than pay. But many of the pay issues underlying today's disputes are very different from those of the 1970s.

In a period of high inflation the priority for the workforce is to make sure it does not lose ground - either in real terms or in relation to other groups of workers. The emphasis is overwhelmingly on more money. In the late 1980s when inflation, though far from conquered, has been fairly steady in the 3-5 per cent range for the past few years employers have felt able to try and negotiate pay deals which provide the right incentives and deal with recruitment and retention.

At Ford this has led management to try and agree a three-year settlement rather than the usual twelve-month affair which puts company and unions in the position of beginning the next set of negotiations almost before the last have been completed. Three-year agreements are standard in many industries in the US and in a more settled economic environment could also become more widespread in Britain. The growth of multi-national companies and the growing impact of Japanese work practices is bound to break down some of the barriers between British labour traditions and those overseas.

In other industries, and particularly in the public sector, the pressure for flexibility has been focused on wider differentials between workers with different levels or different types of skills. Last year's teachers' settlement took some small steps towards increasing the rewards for more senior teachers. The Civil Service, though still reluctant to recognize the differing needs of its many different arms, has introduced merit awards on a small scale and has been forced to pay more for a few scarce skills such as computer specialization. Now there is strong pressure on the Nurses Pay Review Body also to recognize the differing pressures in different parts of the nursing profession by varying rates of pay.

Wider differentials between different skills, rewards for merit as well as seniority, pay structures which recognize that some workers are in short supply while some are in over-supply are all features of the pay climate which have been gaining ground. They need to develop a good deal further.

In the corporatist climate of the 1970s it was thought natural to negotiate national rates for national industries. The 1980s have seen a return to more flexible arrangements and localized markets. An economy in which controls on pay and foreign exchange have been scrapped, contracted out services are beginning to be preferred to those in-house, and small business has thrived, also needs to exchange a monolithic approach to pay determination for one which responds to the laws of supply and demand.

The tax encouragement given to Profit-related Pay may help in a small way. But the Government has to set an example in the public sector as the employer precisely where the monolithic approach is most strongly entrenched. It has made a start by abandoning pay comparability in the Civil Service and by urging the review bodies to place recruitment and retention at the top of their criteria. It must now carry pay flexibility further forward.

SCIENTIFIC ILLITERATES

Yesterday *The Times* reported on an international survey of the scientific attainments of schoolchildren. At 10 years old, out of 11 countries surveyed, only children in Hong Kong, Singapore and the Philippines scored worse than their counterparts in England.

One survey does not prove a crisis - but it certainly suggests a problem. If today's primary pupils turn out unfit for the twenty-first century, that will be a heavy indictment of officials, politicians and parents alike for failing to provide their children with the wherewithal for life.

Science is the source of the future. That familiar motto of our age bears carrying into public policy at all levels. Recognizing the central place that scientific work holds in our society does not, of course, justify any one particular level of public support for science or a set number of teachers (though it surely ought to give mathematics, science and technology pride of place in the new national curriculum). It does, however, provide a benchmark against which the signals given by politicians on such matters as scientific research can be judged.

This week the message is ambiguous - even discouraging. The Secretary of State for Education and Science published his response to the Advisory Board for the Research Council's recommended budget for science over the next three years. He makes it hard to conclude that the government sees scientific research occupying a central place.

The Board told Mr Baker that the United Kingdom science base was "at a watershed", in reply the government gave the impression that the stream it intends to follow leads not just to a shrinking volume of research but to research contraction of an accidental and unplanned kind.

Mr Robert Jackson, the higher education minister, has taken to referring disparagingly in his speeches to the "science lobby" as if Fellows of the Royal Society had no capacity for disinterested thought about the progress of their disciplines or the applications of specialized knowledge in our technological society. In other societies thinkers and researchers of the quality produced in British laboratories and

university departments merit praise, not sneers.

Applied to the ABRC, the slur simply does not work. Sir Francis Tombs of Rolls Royce, Sir Walter Bodmer of the Imperial Cancer Research Fund, and Professor Sir Sam Edwards, Mr Cecil Parkinson's scientific adviser, are, like the other members of the ABRC, experts and experienced administrators of science.

In the face of anger from some academic quarters, they have pushed through a policy of concentrating research in a small number of university centres, grading universities according to their capacity. The ABRC is simultaneously trying to re-shape British science to focus available money on the best, and to push the balance of work towards industrial application - while also finding space for new concerns, notably research on AIDS.

In the midst of this managerial task, the ABRC was justified in asking the Government for two things. One was severely practical. To establish university research centres, new laboratories have to be created and good people wooed; a small amount of extra money is needed.

The second was political. The ABRC said that the financing of science in this country was at a crossroads: it was up to ministers to pick a route forward. The ABRC simply reserved the right to characterize any reduction in the volume of scientific activity as prejudicial to the country's economic and social development, as it put it.

Mr Baker has responded satisfactorily on neither count. He is not providing the wherewithal to ensure that the reshaping of the science base is accomplished in an orderly way. Nor is he openly facing the reduction in the volume of research suggested by the accounts.

In his letter to Sir David Phillips, chairman of the ABRC, he teases with the prospect of "greater priority" next year - provided "we are able to construct a coherent strategy". That qualification is unfair. The strategy is in place. The ABRC deserved the Secretary of State's backing.

ITALY'S ABSENT GOVERNORS

Signor Giovanni Goria, the Italian Premier, was the lame duck at the European Summit yesterday. He had important positions to defend, above all on Italy's increased contribution to the EEC budget, but he has become that sad aspect of Italian life: a leader without a government.

Signor Goria, according to a number of opinion polls, is the Italian politician most revered by Italian mothers. At 44 he was the youngest Premier (now the youngest ex-Premier) since the war, and the one who looked most in need of protection. The maternal instinct, however, has not been enough to protect him from the backbench revolt in his own Christian Democrat party.

Under cover of the secret parliamentary ballot, the backbenchers have been siding with the Opposition Communists to throw out countless items from the 1988 budget. Signor Goria's hopes to be more than an interim leader were dashed and his resignation on Wednesday night has propelled the country into a new crisis of succession.

Parliamentary reform is a pressing necessity for Italy. The country is rightfully proud of its economic progress but with such development must come political responsibility. The Western Summit in Venice last summer hovered uncertainly because it was not clear whether another lame duck Premier, the veteran Amintore Fanfani could play host. Last autumn President Cossiga cancelled at very short notice, an important State visit to Britain because of yet another government crisis. Italy owes it not only to itself, but also to its

European neighbours to overhaul the political system. Reform, of course, needs strong leadership but this is not entirely impossible in the Italian context as Signor Bettino Craxi proved in 1983-86.

Reforms must concentrate on streamlining the strict Proportional Representation which has given too much leverage to tiny parties. At the same time the tradition of strong party control over affairs of state, the so-called *Partitocrazia*, should be critically reviewed. And the practice of secret parliamentary balloting that has proved such a boon to Signor Goria's enemies, should be changed.

But parliamentary reform by itself is not enough. The failures of government are not primarily the failures of parliament as an institution. What is really needed is to give muscle to the Prime Minister. In almost all European democracies the power of Prime Ministers has been growing, but not in Italy.

Signor Goria's cabinet list was more or less presented to him on a plate by the leaders of the parties, especially the Christian Democrat chairman, Signor Ciriaco De Mita. The patronage network is too intricate for the Premier even to hire or fire his ministers.

Italy has a complicated agenda for the rest of the decade, including the shaping of a new energy programme. The economy, not helped by the latest budget debate, is advancing in fits and starts. It needs more careful attention. But before the physicians-cum-politicians can cure the country, they must heal themselves. Italy, a country that often thrives without a government, needs its governors again.

Society lacking moral guidance

From the *Vicar of Croydon*
Sir, Douglas Hurd, the Home Secretary, is to be congratulated for his focus on the place of morality as a vital ingredient in our multi-faith national life, in the context of increasing crime statistics. Those of us who serve on police consultative groups or Home Office crime-prevention initiatives know well the increases, both geographically and in all categories of recorded crimes.

While worthy and unremitting energy has been expended in the above groups, we have become totally obsessed with prevention as the only concept open to us. Vast sums of money have been spent on visible policing, social education and environmental issues, but with almost no effect. No current consideration has been given to caution except superficial political answers.

Everyone knows why the crime figures are running high, but all our committees of experts have no knowledge whatever, it seems, about how to handle issues of values, ethics or morality.

Perhaps the observation of the Home Secretary will now give crime prevention and police consultative groups the insight and resolution to tackle unprecedented crime statistics, with a basic, obvious item on their agendas.

Yours faithfully,
COLIN HILL,
The Parish Office,
Croydon Parish Church,
Church Street, Croydon, Surrey.

Vatican in wartime

From Dr Michael Stratton
Sir, Your Rome correspondent's view ("Wartime Pope's resignation letter", January 30) that there was no real threat of German invasion of the Vatican, was not shared by those who lived there at the time.

The British Minister to the Holy See - D'Arcy Osborne, who was inside the Vatican for the duration of the war - feared this possibility on many occasions and curtailed his activities accordingly. He took calculated risks: it was he who set up negotiations between Italy and the Allies for an armistice, communicating with London from August 17, 1943, using his personal cypher; the armistice was declared on September 8.

The Germans moved in almost at once and everyone there thought that the Vatican would be taken. Osborne burnt his sensitive documents - and whilst Italian troops were putting up resistance in the Rome suburbs, the Swiss Guards were posted as a symbol of defence, but were under the strict orders of Pope Pius XII not to fire. In the event the German detachments halted at the frontier of the Vatican City State.

In June, 1943, the BBC had broadcast advice to escaped prisoners in Italy to try to make the Vatican. After the armistice thousand of ex-prisoners were loose in Italy and if a couple of hundred had followed this advice the Germans would have occupied at once. Osborne set out to ease their plight and established a highly successful network of billets and escape routes, assisted by the redoubtable Monsignor Hugh O'Flaherty, the so-called "Scarlet Pimpernel of the Vatican".

All this time there was an underlying fear that the High Command would put an end to these activities by occupation, but the German Minister to the Holy See, Ernst von Weizsacker, was personally against and did nothing to uncover the organisation.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL STRATTON,
Culver Farm,
Old Compton Lane,
Farnham, Surrey.

Uncharitable action

From Dr Ranulph Glanville
Sir, On Comic Relief day I gave a lecture in Western Germany. Naturally, I presented the audience with red noses and invited my generous hosts to contribute to Comic Relief. Naturally, they contributed.

Imagine, then, my delight upon returning home to discover that I could find no local bank that would accept their offering, being made, as some of it was, in coins.

Obviously, the concept our bankers have of free banking is very partial, being dominated by convenience rather than compassion.

Ultimately, a special arrangement was reached with the Girobank in Liverpool. Coming to this arrangement cost a fortune in time and phone fees, neither of which relieve anyone, but which do feed already inadequate, possibly excessively, full coffers.

Yours faithfully,
RANULPH GLANVILLE,
Portsmouth Polytechnic,
School of Architecture,
King Henry Building,
King Henry Street,
Portsmouth, Hampshire.

Uneasy on the ear

From Mr John E. H. Bennett
Sir, Your correspondent (February 5) refers to the clatter of clogs awakening her in a Lancashire cotton town in the 1920s. This is in sharp contrast to those who listened to the linen spinners going by in Belfast in the 1890s. *The Irish Textile Journal* of 1893 reports:

and the half-timers pace along by their side (i.e. the linen spinners) with their little bare feet making no

Second thoughts on electronic tags

From the *Director of the Prison Reform Trust*
Sir, It is always difficult to argue against an experiment, but it is not hard to predict the problems which would be encountered in any trial programme of electronic tagging of offenders (reports, February 9, 10; leading article, February 10).

Given the principled opposition of all grades of probation staff, where would one find a probation service willing to take on the experiment? Where indeed will one find a large enough pool of young offenders with regular access to a telephone? And, given the unhappy experience of most new "alternatives to custody" and the lack of evidence that the courts actually seek a power of house arrest, what is the justification for putting at risk successful and positive sanctions like community service and probation day centres?

Yet, leaving aside the practical and pedagogical objections to tagging, there is one other reason for the "chorus of derision" which, as you rightly say, has greeted the idea. This is the profoundly unsatisfactory way in which the idea has been "floated" in the press over the past months. Successive stories in the newspapers that the Government is about to introduce tagging have subsequently been met by denials from the Home Office press office.

The stories, it seems, have been leaked in such a way to afford "plausible deniability" to the Home Secretary. It may be noted that Mr Hurd has been extremely evasive on the issue (indeed, when challenged to present his views during the second reading debate on the Criminal Justice Bill, he deliberately chose not to do so).

The sooner the Government issues a Green Paper or produces some detailed proposals the better. If new non-custodial measures for offenders between the ages of 17 and 21 are under consideration it is about time a proper public discussion of all the options is initiated.

Yours faithfully,
STEPHEN SHAW, Director,
Prison Reform Trust,
59 Caledonian Road, N1.

Abolition of ILEA

From the *Principal, City & Guilds of London Art School*
Sir, From this less advantaged position south of the river I can only view with dismay the announced abolition of the ILEA (report, February 5).

The education and practical experience it has provided in music of all kinds is unequalled in my view, anywhere else in the country. Can one envisage the inner-London boroughs, however well intentioned, being able to provide the resources needed for the admirable and expert bands and orchestral groups that have become famous world-wide? Many children of primary and secondary level must gain intellectual as well as manual education through these enterprises.

In my own field I would like to draw attention to one of the

Reform of NHS

From Mr Laurie Pavitt
Sir, The minister responsible for the NHS is reported as referring to the health-care industry (my italics). This epitomises the Government's economic dogma in its handling of hospitals since 1979.

Conservative administrations have presided over three radical changes of organisation: the disastrous Keith Joseph reorganisation; the Patrick Jenkin reshuffle of that monstrosity; and then the Fowler years implementing the Griffiths and Rayner reports to commercialise and industrialise management and services.

The pursuit of profit and productivity in factories replaced personal skilled engineers with conveyor-belt semi-skilled workers. The loss of job satisfaction and pride in personal skill was

Question of colour

From Mrs Penelope Reid
Sir, I would like to persuade Mr Howard (Word-watching, February 3) to accept a prettier explanation of the word "Isabella" than that offered by what he so rightly calls "absurd folk mythology".

The heroic Queen Isabella of Spain was a great horsewoman and established a famous stud of the sort of showy, Arabian and Barb-bred animals for which Spain later became renowned. For all monarchs of that era the horse provided a mobile throne and for this purpose needed to be of a spectacular colour if possible.

Isabella favoured creamy chestnuts with pure white manes and tails, a colour hard to breed and

Seat of the mighty

From Mr R. Cooper
Sir, With reference to MPs on TV (report, February 10), perhaps instead of impotently calling "Order", Mr Speaker should be empowered to directorily shout "Cut".

Yours faithfully,
R. COOPER,
Durham Lodge,
167 Coudson Road,
Old Coudson,
Surrey.

10). But it will be sad if the Government simply buys a tag system for offenders off the American shelf, for two reasons.

One, because in our (highly expert) scientific view, none of the US systems, which are based on the telephone handset, is secure. Nor do they offer the potential for long-term penal reform that a tag system catering either for local mobility or for curfew (such as we principally advocate) could lead to.

Two, because the whole idea of electronic tagging began here in Britain - publicly, indeed, in *The Times*, which published a long letter from me describing this potential alternative to prison on October 16, 1982 - a letter which also announced the forming of this association. Eighteen months earlier I had unveiled the proposal informally to my friend (now Sir) Philip Woodfield, of the Home Office, who introduced me to the then Director General of the Prison Service, Dennis Trevelyan.

Already in November, 1981, we had started talks with the electronic laboratories at the University of Kent. All this was well over a year before the relatively primitive first device was developed in the US - in the spring of 1983, when we held our first national press conference and presented our full proposals to the then Home Secretary, William Whitelaw.

We got the brush-off of course. Only when we had publicised the US initiatives were we heeded. It will be extremely unjust if whatever system of tagging the Home Office does introduce is not a British product.

Yours faithfully,
TOM STACEY, Director,
The Offender's Tag Association,
128 Kensington Church Street, W8.

Multiple sentences

From Mr Gershon Ellenbogen
Sir, The Dean Emeritus of Manchester (February 8) is mistaken in regarding as illogical the "handing down more than one life sentence for multiple crimes". Each crime has to carry its own sentence, so that in the event of a successful appeal against conviction on any of a number of charges, the appropriate sentence may stand in respect of any conviction which is not challenged or set aside.

I am, etc.
G. ELLENBOGEN,
9 Montagu Square, W1.

important though less known functions of an education authority - that of providing discretionary grants for a wide variety of disciplines, including the visual arts, music, drama and dance. The ILEA has performed this function in an exemplary manner and has awarded grants on educational grounds alone.

This school, for instance, provides many courses in skills such as wood and stone carving, lettering, and the conservation of polychrome carving, which are unavailable elsewhere. Are the students in some of the poorer inner boroughs to be deprived of the opportunity to study in such subjects?

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
ROGER DE GREY, Principal,
City & Guilds of London Art School,
124 Kennington Park Road, SE11.
February 5.

replaced by larger pay packets for those left in the industry.

The pursuit of cost limitation with accountancy dominant over health care has led to the conveyor-belt approach applied to hospital wards. Productivity demands more work from fewer nurses. By speeding bed discharges the DHSS rebled the pit through and the workload of each nurse. What time has the ward sister for her traditional personal understanding of each patient? Here today, gone tomorrow.

But car workers were compensated by massive increases in pay. The nurses have had praise and peanuts!

Yours etc.
LAURIE PAVITT (Chairman,
Parliamentary Labour Party
Health Group, 1964-77),
48 Westminster Mansions,
1 Little Smith Street, SW1.
February 5.

therefore all the more prized. The chronicler Evelyn records that the French monarch, Louis XIV, when on his way to open Parliament, "appeared on an Isabella Barb", in 1651.

And it was this same equine coloration which, when exported to the Americas by the Conquistadors, developed amongst the feral descendants of their chargers and became known as "palomino" by later settlers and is today the preferred colour for parade horses in the American West.

Yours truly,
PENELOPE REID,
Morewood House,
Hamstead Marshall,
Newbury, Berkshire.
February 4.

Archbishop hits at Mr Gummer

From the *Archbishop of York*
Sir, Mr Gummer's intemperate attacks on me (report, February 11) make sad reading beside Mr Hurd's constructive attempt to improve co-operation between Church and State.

I am accused of advocating "freedom to promote homosexual practices." Even the most superficial reading of my speech in the House of Lords on clause 28 of the Local Government Bill makes it clear that my concern was to question the wisdom of allowing central government to move in the direction of controlling ideas by means of legislation. This is a profound moral point, which was well received in the House, but which unfortunately Mr Gummer seems incapable of grasping.

Co-operation between Church leaders and politicians requires a willingness actually to listen to one another. Historians on the *Jimmy Young Show* may be personally satisfying, but in the long run are unhelpful.

ON THIS DAY

FEBRUARY 12 1906

The Dreadnought class of battleship was of revolutionary construction. Its powerful turbine engines produced great speed; its armament consisted of 10 12-in guns. The keel of this prototype was laid down in October, 1905; it was completed in December, 1906. That it came into being was due to the vigorous efforts of Admiral Fisher, First Sea Lord

Co-operation between Church leaders and politicians requires a willingness actually to listen to one another. Historians on the *Jimmy Young Show* may be personally satisfying, but in the long run are unhelpful.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN EBOR,
Bishopthorpe,
York.
February 11.

THE KING AND THE DREADNOUGHT.

LAUNCH OF THE NEW BATTLESHIP.

(FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

PORTSMOUTH, Feb. 11. ... The moment had now come for the performance of the christening ceremony, which was preceded by a short religious service. A specially bound copy of the service was presented to his Majesty, who had taken his station close to the rostrum from which he was to launch the vessel. The "service to be used at the launching of ships of his Majesty's Navy" was read by the Rev. A. P. Hill, Chaplain of the Dockyard. It begins with Psalm CIVIL, v.23, "They that go down to the sea in ships and occupy their business in great waters; these men see the works of the Lord and His wonders in the deep."

Finally the Bishop [of Winchester] advanced and with uplifted hand gave his blessing to the vessel and all who should sail in her. Thus ended a very simple but most impressive service.

A few minutes had still to elapse before the King could launch the vessel, as the last blocks upon which she rested had yet to be knocked away, and until this was done she could not move. While this operation was in progress Sir John Fisher and Admiral Barry pointed out the main exterior features of the vessel to his Majesty, who was much interested in her appearance and admired her fine lines and great length and depth. As he came to the edge of the platform he was recognized by the crowds below, who set up a hearty cheering, which his Majesty graciously acknowledged. Admiral Barry then presented to his Majesty the managers of the constructive and engineering departments of the dockyard, and this formality over, the King advanced to the little knot of naval attaches, shaking hands and conversing with each of them in turn, and also with the Bishop of Winchester.

The eagerly awaited moment had by this time arrived, and the last blocks had been removed, and nothing now remained to be done but for the King to cut the cord which restrained the vessel. His Majesty ascended the dais in front of the bows, and taking in his hands the flower-hidden bottle of wine, which was presented to him by Admiral Barry and Mr. Mitchell, one of whom stood on either side of him, he dashed it against the ship. The force of the blow was insufficient to break the bottle, cushioned as it was by its bouquet of flowers. A second attempt, however, was successful, and all that then remained to be done was to cut the cord...

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)
WASHINGTON, Feb. 11. The building and launching of the Dreadnought have aroused an interest here which is both professional and political. ... That such a ship could have been built so quickly and so secretly astounded naval experts... the *New York Times* says:-

"The battleship... is a symbol of the effectiveness, the sincerity, and the power of the alliance between Great Britain and Japan. Had it not been for that alliance the Dreadnought would never have been built, for she is the direct outcome of the naval lessons learned in the Russo-Japanese war..."

Yours faithfully,
R. COOPER,
Durham Lodge,
167 Coudson Road,
Old Coudson,
Surrey.

replaced by larger pay packets for those left in the industry.

The pursuit of cost limitation with accountancy dominant over health care has led to the conveyor-belt approach applied to hospital wards. Productivity demands more work from fewer nurses. By speeding bed discharges the DHSS rebled the pit through and the workload of each nurse. What time has the ward sister for her traditional personal understanding of each patient? Here today, gone tomorrow.

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COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
February 11: His Excellency Dr P. C. Alexander and Shrimati Alexander were received in audience by The Queen and the Queen Mother.

His Excellency Dr Walter F. Magrutch was received in audience by The Queen and the Queen Mother.

His Excellency was accompanied by the following members of the Embassy who had the honour of being presented to Her Majesty: Dr Friedrich Hamburger (Minister), Dr René Politzer (First Secretary), Dr Ulrike Tilly (Second Secretary), Dr Ernst Menhofer (Counsellor, Head of Cultural Affairs), Brigadier Helge Lier (Counsellor, Defence), Dr Barbara Lee-Stork (Counsellor, Cultural Affairs), Herr Othmar Horbinger (Counsellor, Social and Consular Affairs) and Herr Johann Newald (Counsellor Social and Consular Affairs).

Mrs Magrutch had the honour of being received by The Queen.

Sir Mark Russell (Deputy Under Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs) was received by Her Majesty, who was present and the Gentlemen of the Household in Waiting were in attendance.

His Excellency Senator the Honourable G. M. Mamba and

Mrs Mamba were received in audience by The Queen and the Queen Mother.

Mr R. F. Stimson had the honour of being received by The Queen upon his appointment as Governor and Commander-in-Chief of St Helena.

Mrs Stimson had the honour of being received by Her Majesty.

The Lord Cobbold had the honour of being received by The Queen and the Queen Mother.

CLARENCE HOUSE
February 11: Lieutenant-General Sir Cameron Moffat today had the honour of being received by Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother, Colonel-General Sir Peter de la Maza, Colonel-General Sir John S. Shaw and the Honour of being received by Her Majesty upon assuming his appointment as Director General Army Medical Services.

KENSINGTON PALACE
February 11: The Princess of Wales, Patron, British Lung Foundation, this morning visited the Faculty of Medicine of the University of Southampton at the Princess Anne Hospital at Southampton General Hospital, where Her Royal Highness viewed research projects and opened a new laboratory.

Viscountess Campden and Commander Richard Aylard, RN, were in attendance.

Birthdays today

General Sir John Akehurst, 58; General Sir John Archer, 64; Professor A.H. Beckett, former professor of pharmacy, 68; Miss Annette Crobie, actress, 54; Sir James Dunnett, civil servant, 74; Admiral of the Fleet Sir John Fieldhouse, 60; Lord Granville of Ely, 89; Lord Greene of Harrow Weald, 78; Mr Paul Harbison, publisher, 62; Sir Robin Mackworth Young, Librarian Emeritus to The Queen, 68; Lord Moyola, 65; Mr John Rainsman, former chairman, Shell UK, 59; Lord Widdowson, QC, 67; Mr Franco Zeffirelli, open film and theatrical producer and designer, 65.

Today's royal engagements

The Queen will visit the Wildfowl Trust at Slimbridge at 2.45. The Duke and Duchess of York will visit Merchant Taylors' School for Girls, Merseyside, at 9.30. Carr-Gomm (Merseyside) House at 10.30. Everton Park Sports Centre at 11.25. and Liverpool Town Hall at 12.35. Prince Michael of Kent, as President of the Institute of Road Safety Officers, will present institute certificates at Guildhall at 2.30. Prince and Princess Michael of Kent will attend the Stars Organisation for Spastics Ski Gala dinner at the Inter-Continental Hotel at 7.30.

Memorial service

Dr D. Needham
A memorial service for Dr Dorothy Needham was held yesterday in the Chapel of Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge. The Rev J.V.M. Sturdy, Dean of Gonville and Caius College, and the Rev N.J. Thistlethwaite, chaplain, officiated. Baroness Warnock, Mistress of Girton College, Cambridge, and Dr W.J. Macpherson, President of Gonville and Caius, read the lessons. Dr Joseph Needham, husband, gave an address.

Knighthoods for judges

The Queen has approved that the honour of knighthood be conferred on Mr Justice Auld, Mr Justice Hazan, Mr Justice McKinnon and Mr Justice Pill on their appointment as Justices of the High Court of Justice.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Thomas Campion, musician and poet, London, 1567; John Winthrop, Puritan, first governor of Massachusetts, Boston, 1597; George Hanley, meteorologist, London, 1685; Charles Darwin, Shrewsbury, 1809; Abraham Lincoln, 16th president of the US, 1809; 65. Larue County, Kentucky, 1809; George Meredith, novelist, Portsmouth, 1828; Max Beckmann, Expressionist painter, Leipzig, 1884; Roy Harris, composer, Lincoln County, Oklahoma, 1898.

DEATHS: Lady Jane Grey, Queen of England May 6 - May 19, 1553, executed, London, 1554; Charles Le Brun, painter, Versailles, 1690; Pierre Marivaux, novelist and dramatist, Paris, 1763; Immanuel Kant, philosopher, Königsberg, Germany, 1804; Hans von Bülow, pianist and conductor, Cairo, 1894; Lillie Langtry, actress, Monte Carlo, 1929; Charles Voysey, architect, Winchester, 1941.

French troops who landed at Pembroke, surrendered, 1797.

Dinner

City University Business School
The Lord Mayor accompanied by the sheriffs, was present at the third annual dinner for Evening MBA Graduates of the City University Business School held last night at Grosvenor Hall. Mr I.W. Jones, Programme Director, presided and Mr Robin Leigh-Pemberton, Governor of the Bank of England, was guest speaker.

The tale of two horses spells out Fiji's diplomatic demise

By Andrew McEwen, Diplomatic Correspondent

The Queen will be sending a gilded landau drawn by only two horses, instead of four, to pick up Fiji's new envoy to the Court of St James's when he presents his credentials at Buckingham Palace.

The new man, who The Times understands will be Brigadier Ratu Epeli Nailatikau, former commander of the armed forces and son-in-law of the prime minister, has been downgraded from four horses to two because he will be an ambassador rather than a high commissioner.

Behind the minutiae of protocol lies a development which has saddened British diplomats: a decision has been taken to sever the last links between Fiji and the Commonwealth.

Britain was not pleased by the decision. Heads of Government Conference in Vancouver last October to drum Fiji out of the Commonwealth, after two coups which overturned its democratic system.

Although the 49 countries became 48 with immediate effect, Britain tried to maintain the trappings of Fiji's membership, hoping that conditions could be created for it to be renewed.

It continued to call Fiji's

envoy to London, Mr Sailosi Wai Kepa, a high commissioner rather than an ambassador. But when Mr Kepa was called back to Suva last month as Minister of Justice, Britain was faced with an unavoidable decision.

An announcement from Buckingham Palace is expected confirming that agreement has been granted to a Fijian envoy, the formal step which will confirm that the new man is to be an ambassador.

"Britain has finally accepted the inevitable," one Commonwealth diplomat said yesterday.

Suva has replied by notifying the British High Commissioner to Fiji, Mr Roger Barrow, that he will be an ambassador rather than a high commissioner.

The Queen announced through her aides while in Vancouver that she was no longer Fiji's head of state, after the declaration of a republic by Colonel (now Brigadier) Sitiveni Rabuka.

It is an open secret on the diplomatic circuit that Brigadier Nailatikau is to be Fiji's ambassador. "Everyone sees his appointment as a reward for not

having tried to resist the coup," one diplomatic source said.

He was sitting in a hotel room in Perth, Australia, on May 14 when he received news that his deputy, Colonel Rabuka, had staged the first coup, "I reacted with disbelief. I certainly did not know anything about it," he said later.

His absence avoided a potential embarrassment. Brigadier Nailatikau is married to the daughter of Ratu Sir Kamisese Mara, who had been prime minister until shortly before the coup. It was his defeat by Fiji's Indian majority in general elections which precipitated the coup, whose main purpose was to keep power in the hands of the Melanesian minority.

Brigadier Nailatikau made no attempt to reverse the coup, although in theory he could have called on Fijian forces serving overseas with the United Nations.

He returned home and was allowed to keep his rank, although he was given nothing to do. "At least I have been able to get my golf handicap down to single figures," he observed later.

His father-in-law, Ratu Mara, was finally reinstated as prime minister on December 7.

Jobs scheme in North-east would force out farmers

By Peter Davenport

Mr Stanley Hutchinson and his family have farmed the same acres of rolling Cleveland countryside for three quarters of a century. It has been a hard but satisfying existence which is now under threat.

The plight of Mr Hutchinson and two of his agricultural neighbours is set to become a national test case for future government policy of opening up rural areas to new development.

They all face eviction from their tenant farms because they stand in the way of ambitious plans to create an elaborate business park which, its backers say, will bring 10,000 much needed jobs to an area of high unemployment.

It is a classic case of individual sacrifice for the greater good, but the National Farmers' Union, which is backing the men's case, fears that if the development goes ahead it will have not only local but national implications.

Mr Hutchinson, aged 59, works the 214 acres of Lower Newtonhazard farm on the former estate of Lord Londonderry, in Warrington, Cheshire. His father, first took the tenancy in 1914 and he had intended to pass it on to his son Stephen, aged 32.

But last May Wynyard Hall and its surrounding 5,400 acres was bought by Mr John Hall, the property developer who built the Metro-Centre at Gatehead, the largest in Europe.

He has drawn up plans to spend £300 million over the next 10 years building a hotel, conference centre, luxury housing, leisure facilities and a business park on the estate. He sees the development as a key factor in the regeneration of the North-East.

The scheme still has to receive approval from the planning authorities of the four local councils involved.

Yesterday Mr Hall said: "The issue has gone way beyond the tenant farmers to the principle of the government. It is policy to release agricultural land."

"If they can win here in an area which needs development and has every reason to support agricultural land, then they can win the battle in other places."



Mr John Hall, the developer, posing below a portrait of Lord Londonderry at Wynyard Hall. (Photograph: Ted Ditchburn).

"We have to sort out the problem with the tenants; that is the legal position. Some people are bound to be affected by the development but I have to look at it from what is best for the region."

Dr Malcolm Bell, the NFU county secretary and a national authority on rural planning, is opposed to the scheme.

"If people go out and look at the area they will see it is a beautiful mix of traditional farmland, woods and parks. All over the North-east there is derelict land and potential sites for industry and housing. If Wynyard goes ahead they may never be used."

The NFU wants the Secretary of State for the Environment, Mr Nicholas Ridley, to call in the planning application and subject it to a public inquiry.

"There is little doubt that if you take an exceptionally beautiful part of the countryside and offer that for factories then people will want to go there. But on that basis we may as well scrap every bit of planning we have had since 1947," added Dr Bell.

As well as the three farmers who stand to be evicted a further 100,000 sq ft of the land and facilities.

OBITUARY

SIR ASHLEY MILES

Microbiology and preventive medicine



Sir Ashley Miles, FRS, director for nearly twenty years of the Lister Institute of Preventive Medicine, who died yesterday, at the age of 83, was the doyen of British microbiologists.

Arnold Ashley Miles, born on March 20, 1904, in York, showed early signs of academic excellence. He won an exhibition to King's College, Cambridge, and only a year after qualifying in medicine at St Bartholomew's Hospital Medical College, while still a house physician, gained his Membership of the Royal College of Physicians.

The outlines of his future career were shaped by his first post, as demonstrator in bacteriology under W. W. C. Topley at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, from where he rapidly ascended the academic ladder to become professor of bacteriology at University College Hospital Medical School at the age of 33.

Both his remarkable capacity for hard work and his organizational skills were proved to the full during the war. He was pathologist in charge of a London sector of the Emergency Medical Service and director of the Medical Research Council's wound infection unit at Birmingham.

In 1946 he was appointed

director of the department of biological standards at the National Institute for Medical Research.

It was in 1952 that he assumed directorship of the Lister Institute, a research organization embracing a wide variety of biological disciplines that had already made many notable contributions to medical science.

Under Miles's leadership the distinguished record was continued and enhanced, not least by his own researches into mechanisms of inflammation - a natural development of his wartime work on the epidemiology of wound infections.

After retiring from the in-

stitute, in 1971, he continued his laboratory work, first at the Clinical Research Centre at Harrow, and then, from 1976 until his death, as deputy director of the department of medical microbiology at The London Hospital Medical College.

In addition to writing some 140 scientific papers he was a general editor of successive editions of the world-famous British work on microbiology known familiarly to generations of students as "Topley and Wilson".

But Miles was a scientist with an ability to identify the essential factors in problems well outside the confines of microbiology. He was much in demand on boards and committees, including those of the Medical Research Council, the Public Health Laboratory Service, and the World Health Organization.

From 1963 to 1968 he was Biological Secretary of the Royal Society.

He was a man of absolute integrity, with a keen sense of humour. He could be tough, even autocratic when the occasion demanded, but those who knew him well never deceived into believing him other than the kindest of men.

His wife, Ellen, died only a month ago. They had no children.

MR PHILIP CHANTLER

Mr Philip Chantler, CMG, economist and civil servant, died on February 10, at the age of 76. He was one of that select band of economic thinkers whose ideas helped powerfully to shape the course of economic policies and events both at home and abroad in the forty years after 1939.

Philip Chantler was born on May 16, 1911, and educated in Manchester. He had a brilliant academic career, culminating in the award of a Commonwealth Fund Fellowship, which he spent at Harvard in 1934-36.

In the immediate pre-war years, he was tariffs adviser to the UK Gas Corporation, and in 1938, when still in his twenties, he published an economic study on the industry.

After a brief spell of war service in the Army, in 1941 he joined the Central Economic Information division

of the War Cabinet Secretariat, later to become the Economic Section of the Cabinet Office, where he remained until 1947. There, he was involved in a wide range of vital policy issues, including transport, trade, fuel and power, and the control of raw materials.

His longest single appointment as a civil servant was as Economic Adviser in the Ministry of Fuel and Power, from 1947 to 1960. Switching from economic advice to administration, he became an Under-Secretary in the Electricity Division of the Ministry of Power from 1961 to 1965, and chairman of the North-West Economic Planning Board from then until 1969, with headquarters in his beloved Manchester.

Chantler was one of those who believed with intense conviction that rational thought applied to economic affairs could help to further

human welfare. In particular, he brought this conviction to bear on the problems of Third World development.

He held three important appointments abroad in which he was able to put his knowledge and experience to practice: as economic adviser to the Government of Pakistan, Planning Board from 1955 to 1957; as director of economic planning in Cyprus (1969-70), and then in Swaziland (1970-71).

To all his endeavours he brought enthusiasm and honesty of purpose of a rare kind, combined with kindness of disposition.

His interests outside official life included architecture and industrial archaeology.

His wife, Elizabeth Margaret (Pat), whom he married in 1938 - they had just celebrated their golden wedding - survives him with their daughter.

ALLAN CUTHBERTSON

Allan Cuthbertson, the Australian-born actor who had a long career in the British cinema and theatre, died on February 8, at the age of 67.

A dependable character player with an immediately recognizable face, he specialized in pompous and overbearing military types, with a memorable line in withering sarcasm. He operated with equal facility in comedy and straight drama.

Born in Perth, Western Australia, on April 7, 1920, Cuthbertson appeared on the stage and in radio from an early age. He came to Britain in 1947 and made his debut as Romeo in *Romeo and Juliet*, at the Boltons. His early West End stage career included several classic roles, including *Laertes in Hamlet*, *Aimwell in The Beaux' Stratagem*, and *Octavius in Caesar and Cleopatra*.

During the 1970s, he specialized in comedy, playing Richard Greatham in *Noël*



Coward's *Hay Fever* at the Arts, Cambridge, and leading roles in London productions of *The Ghost Train* and *Charley's Aunt*.

His first film, made in 1954, was a screen version of one of his stage successes, *Carrington* VC, in which he repeated his part as a scheming colonel. He

went on to appear in more than 40 films, including *Tunes of Glory*, *The Guns of Navarone*, and *Term of Trial*. But he will be best remembered for his part in *Room at the Top* (1958), as the mocking, supercilious rival to Laurence Harvey's working-class hero, Joe Lampton. He also appeared in the sequel, *Life at the Top*.

On television, Cuthbertson was an effective straight man to such comedians as Morecambe and Wise and Tommy Cooper, and he appeared in several comedy series, including *Ripping Yarns* and *Fawlty Towers*. In 1986, he was the pompous father with a teenage daughter in Michael Palin's play, *East of Ipswich*.

In private a shy man, far removed from the characters he often played, he is survived by his Czech-born wife, Dr Gertrude Wilmer, and adopted son. He also leaves a fine collection of eighteenth and nineteenth century illustrated books.

DR COLIN FISHER

Dr Colin Fisher, who has died, at the age of 51, was a respected particle physicist of international repute.

He was based at the Rutherford Appleton Laboratories, near Harwell, but he was, in common with many British scientists, a frequent visitor to CERN, in Geneva.

Fisher was an innovative scientist in experimental techniques. He did some of the best work in the study of "beauty particles", the discovery of whose existence was a milestone in the field of particle physics. More significantly, perhaps, he was pioneer in the bubble chamber technique in the study of these particles.

The "beauty particles", whose life is measured in fractions of a second and which cannot be seen by the naked eye, were funnelled into the bubble chamber - the size of a room, and filled with either gas or a liquid. High-speed cameras then captured

the trail left by the particles as they passed through the gas, before they expired.

Anyone who worked in this rarefied area of physics was, by definition, a good scientist.

Fisher continued to work on bubble chambers, refining them for specialized work, long after most nuclear physicists had come to regard them as obsolete. By the early 1980s he had succeeded in building extremely sensitive chambers that were a fraction of the size of conventional machines.

His most recent work was on the construction of particle detectors based on very fine polymer fibres which scintillate when struck by subatomic particles.

He was admired by his colleagues, not least for his ability to recognise the needs of theoreticians and in developing practical solutions to meet their demands.

He leaves a widow and a son.

Colonel Guy Stocker, CBE, secretary-general of the British Commonwealth Ex-Services League, has died, at the age of 65.

Most of his military career was as a Cavalryman in the 13/18th Royal Hussars. It took him to Australia, Malaya, Canada, and Cyprus - providing an ideal background for his next career: caring for Commonwealth ex-servicemen.

As director of Prince Philip's Appeal for Commonwealth Veterans, Stocker's personal commitment ensured that the work of the league will be able to continue into the immediate future as so many men from the old Empire who served the Crown in the Second World War will reach the age when they could be in need.

Mr John Harrison Cridlan, of Maisemore, last of the generation of breeders of Aberdeen Angus cattle, died on February 3. He was 80.

The family had bred and reared eleven Smithfield supreme champions. His grandfather won his first Smithfield in 1894. J. H. Cridlan's greatest triumph was at Christmas, 1971, when his champion carcass realised a record price at auction of £5,300. The herd was dispersed in 1976.

ADMIRAL PHILIP SHARP

Rear-Admiral Philip Sharp, CB, DSC, died on February 10, at the age of 74.

He was born on November 23, 1913, a clergyman's son, and joined the RNVR in 1937. In the early war years he served in the destroyer *Sikh*, taking part in actions against the *Altmark* and *Isarmark* and playing his part in convoys sent to relieve Malta.

In the Mediterranean he also saw action off Cape Bon and in the Gulf of Sirte. On the night of December 13, 1941, *Sikh* was involved in the sinking of two Italian cruisers carrying fuel to North Africa. For his part in this action Sharp was awarded the DSC.

However, the *Sikh* was sunk off Tobruk in September, 1942, and Sharp spent the next seven months in an Italian prison camp.

From 1943 to 1946, he commanded several destroyers, operating in British home waters and with the Allied landings in Normandy. He later went to the Admiralty.

While in the cruiser *Gambia*, in 1953, he took part in rescue and relief work for the victims of the Greek earthquake disaster at Zante.

In 1960, he became Captain of the Fleet, Home Fleet. He was ADC to the Queen in 1965, and retired from the Navy two years later.

In retirement, Sharp worked for the National Society for Clear Air.

He leaves a widow, Dilys, and a son.

Mr Jim Willmer, president of Nottingham Forest Football Club, has died at the age of 75.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr N.M. Yarrow and Miss C.J. Hawkins
The engagement is announced between Norman Murray, twin son of Sir Eric Yarrow, of Cloak, Kilnclinton, and Mrs John Elliot, of North Street Farm, Breamore, and Carol Jane, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Nicholas Hawkins, of Noble Tree House, Hildenborough, Kent.

Mr P.A. Brook and Miss H.M. Gibson
The engagement is announced between Paul, only son of Mr and Mrs R. Brook, of Gomersal, West Yorkshire, and Heather, only daughter of Dr and Mrs R.J.D. Gibson, of Bingley, West Yorkshire.

Mr T.H. Bulteel and Miss A.M. Whitshire
The engagement is announced between Thomas Hillierston, elder son of Mr and Mrs Richard Bulteel, of Hawling Lodge, Gloucestershire, and Alison Mary, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Trevor Whitshire, of Seaford, Sussex.

Mr J.R.E. Cook and Miss M.E. Hall
The engagement is announced between James, son of Mr R.E. Cook, of Kyreham House, Crambe, York, and Mrs P.A. Cook, of The Grange, Cawood, Selby, and Molra, only daughter of Mr and Mrs S.C. Hall, of Badgersbrook, Crambe, York.

Mr A.F. Cooper and Miss M.A. Dibley
The engagement is announced between Anthony, son of Mr and Mrs J.D. Cooper, of Alverstoke, Gosport, Hampshire, and Mary, daughter of Mr and Mrs A.J. Dibley, of Alton, Hampshire.

Mr D.M. Fraser and Miss V.E. Holder
The engagement is announced between David Macdonald Fraser, and Vanessa Elizabeth, only daughter of Mr and Mrs J. Hodder.

Mr J.S. Gillam and Miss S.J. Howell
The engagement is announced between Jeremy Stephen, only son of Alan and Mollie Gillam, and Sarah Jane, younger daughter of Dr John and Dr Dee Howell, of Hinton Martell, Dorset.

Mr L. Jacobson and Miss L.J. Pinder
The engagement is announced between Lawrence, only son of Dr and Mrs Julius Jacobson, of Cape Town, South Africa, and Jane, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs John Pinder, of Tadworth, Surrey.

Dr C.M. Levinson and Miss F. Heimann
The engagement is announced between Charles, younger son of Dr and Mrs Gordon Levinson, London, and Francine Heimann, daughter of Dr David Heimann and Mrs Josephine Corcoran, London.

Mr A. Levy and Miss C.J. Finn
The engagement is announced between Adam, only son of Mr and Mrs Stanford Levy, of North Tarrytown, New York, and Camilla, only daughter of Mr Peter Finn, of Pulborough, West Sussex, and Mrs Tessa Pearce, of Wimborne, Dorset.

The Rev A.S. Montgomerie and Miss J.A. Fletcher
The engagement is announced between the Rev William and Mrs Montgomerie, of Warrington, and Julie, twin daughter of Mr and Mrs William Fletcher, of Sutton Coldfield.

Mr C.S. Prickett and Miss J.C. Davy
The engagement is announced between Charles Sandham, elder son of the late Brigadier Anthony Prickett, and Mrs Prickett, of Loch Eye House, Fearn, Ross-shire, Scotland, and Jane Georgina, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Christopher Davy, of Rushett, Faversham, Kent.

Mr S.F. Watson and Miss V.J. Pitcher
The engagement is announced between Stephen Watson, of California, and Virginia Pitcher, of Malden, Essex.

Mr A.E. Watts and Miss G.M. Church
The engagement is announced between Alastair, eldest son of Mr and Mrs E.J. Watts, of Ewshot, Surrey, and Georgina Melissa, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs C.J.G. Church, of Micheldever, Hampshire.

Mr M.H. Gale and Miss E.G.C. Beckett
The marriage took place on January 30, 1988, between Mr Michael Gale, son of the late Mr and Mrs Hugh Gale, of Skegness, Lincolnshire, and Miss Eleanor Beckett, daughter of Major and Mrs Charles Beckett, of Wincanton, Somerset.

Duke backs £2m showcase for farming

By John Young
Agriculture Correspondent

The Duke of Edinburgh has endorsed an appeal to raise £2 million to improve public knowledge of farming and food production.

The Duke is President of British Food and Farming Year, 1989, a planned celebration of the industry's achievements, of which the high point will be a three-day agricultural show in Hyde Park, London.

The programme's main purpose is to remind

THE ARTS

TELEVISION

Question of class

What prejudice did Gary from Ruffwood Comprehensive entertain about his forthcoming week at Rugby School? "There's gonna be toffs," he volunteered in exemplary Brooksideese. "It's going to be tough?" prompted the housemaster, doubtless thinking that the hirsute prole would benefit hugely from bracing cold showers and a lick of C.C.F. discipline. Gary had to repeat himself.

40 Minutes: Changing Places (BBC2) needed more of such impromptu misapprehensions to dispel its resemblance to a model exam question. But a group of sixth formers from one of the first purpose-built comprehensives to one of the older public schools: the following week, deliver a corresponding clutch of Rugbyans to Kirby, Lancashire for a short, sharp culture shock.

This neat idea lent itself to the mirror-image approach. A Philosophy and Politics class at Tom Brown's Alma Mater heard of Aristotle's influence on the stiff upper lip; the Economics teacher at Ruffwood launched into a North-South rant which the visiting toffs politely conceded had been "very useful". The Ruffs abhorred the regimentation of public school life; the Ruffs condemned comprehensive discipline as lax.

Hungry for mile-high disparities which never emerged, the camera was absent during what must have been a vintage class skirmish, when the Ruffs were handed tennis racquets and balls, only to have their untutored efforts mocked by the Ruffs. Again, the family homes of the Kirby boys may have provided a jolt to the visitors' aesthetic sensibilities but were scarcely lumpen. Surveying the town centre young Jolyon observed: "None of them are actually starving."

The worst that life can throw at either group will be as a mild headache compared to the lot of their coevals in Ethiopia. The second part of *This Week: The Permanent Emergency* (Thames) had high-profile contrasts falling into its lap.

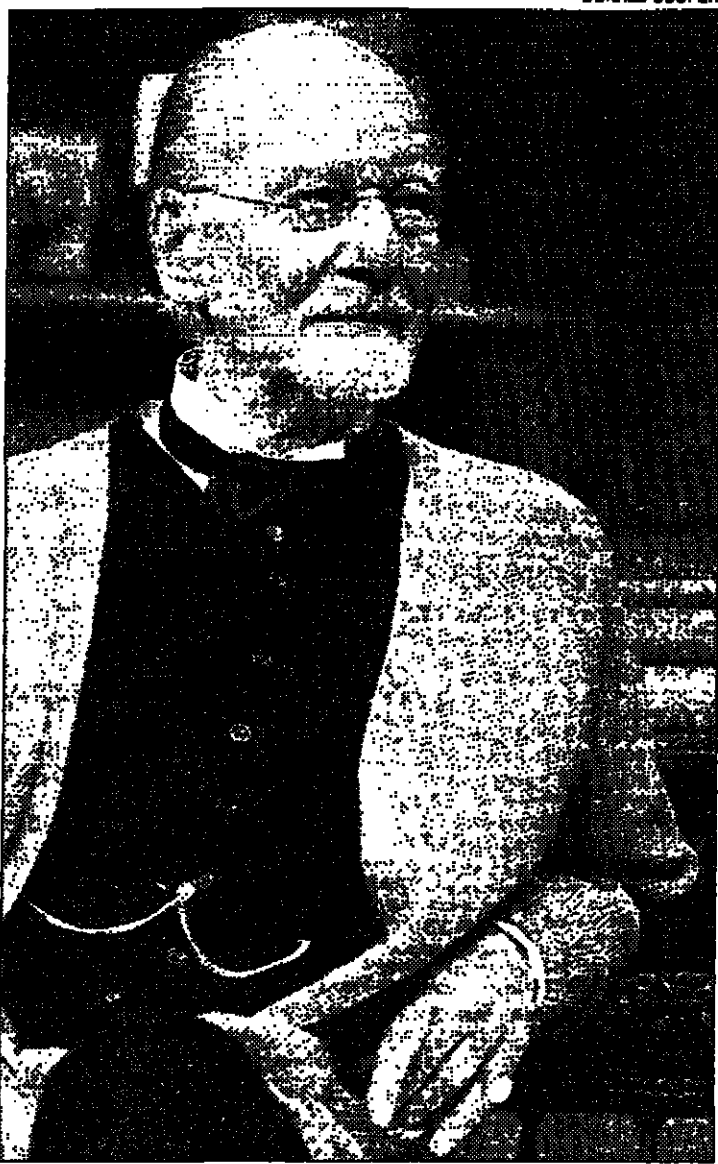
The poorest nation on earth devotes more than half its budget to maintaining the largest army in black Africa while accepting the West's massive subvention in the form of food aid, the Marxist government insists on its right to denounce "imperialism". With the logic of a textbook read backwards, they plan widespread collectivization in areas where perpetual drought and mushrooming population will soon leave precious little to collectivize.

The fact that these programmes have bracketed the admirable Comic Relief effort may be a coincidence of scheduling, but their doomy projections are a salutary bucket of cold water. Even £10 million is a drop in the ocean—or, in this case, desert.

Martin Cropper

Platonic perfection

DONALD COOPER



John Gielgud reworks his characteristic magic as Sir Sydney Cockerell

THEATRE

The Best of Friends
Apollo

Readers of Alec Guinness's *Blessings in Disguise* will be familiar with the figure of Sir Sydney Cockerell, long-term curator of Cambridge's Fitzwilliam Museum, and a noted collector of people, including Bernard Shaw and Laurence Olivier, Mother Abbess of Stanbrook Abbey.

Cockerell, who was inclined to keep his friends in different boxes, decided to bring these two together, thus prompting the 25-year correspondence which is the basis of Hugh Whitmore's play.

But instead of producing another Shavian duologue along the lines of *Dear Liar*, Mr Whitmore had the inspiration of including Cockerell as well. The effect is to transform a quickly platonic courtship into a trio on the universal and theatrically unexplored theme of friendship, with Cockerell (who published a book called *The Best of Friends*) as the leading character.

The essence of friendship is that it undercuts matters of talent and social position, exemplified in this case by a lasting bond between two powerful figures driven by their own versions of the Life Force, and a retired curator who, when ever alone, confesses himself a string-pulling second-rater with no clear purpose in life.

It is in this role that John Gielgud returns to the stage after nearly a decade, and reworks his characteristic magic in a performance that is at once totally objectified and an act of self-portraiture.

His prevailing quality is extreme modesty, expressed with old school good breeding, and a lack of envy. But without exceeding this framework he produces an enormous range of contrasting colours.

There is Cockerell, like a schoolboy, escorting Dame Laurencia on her one London outing; or wickedly conjuring money out of museum benefactors.

In spite of occasional memory lapses, Gielgud gives the impression that he is saying the first thing that comes into his mind, often wishing he could bite off his tongue afterwards. It may have been a life on the sidelines, but Gielgud leaves you in no doubt that he found it "very interesting", and that he views death with chirpy equanimity.

Meanwhile, we have followed the loving and sometimes stormy relationship of his two protégés. There is one openly dramatic episode, where Dame Laurencia, mortally offended by the Shaw fable of the *Black Girl*, severs the friendship, and leaves Shaw to write a heartfelt letter on the occasion of her supposed death.

The curtain then rises on the sight of a robustly surviving Abbess, and Shaw splutteringly caught out in a direct expression of his feelings. Otherwise, none of the material is conventionally dramatic. The friends exchange gifts, describe foreign visits and explain their domestic routines. There is no conflict, no suspense, and the effect is rivetingly touching and funny.

James Roose-Evans, the director, achieved a comparable effect in *84, Charing Cross Road*. It depends on indefinable abstractions like truth and affection; and, in the case of letter exchanges, on a sure grasp of the psychological space between characters as a guide to stage movement.

Ray McNally and Rosemary Harris perform a marvellously tactful duet: Miss Harris falling into mischievous banter with "Brother Bernardo" without ever overstepping the limits of piety; McNally, more virile and less egotistic than the Shavian legend, demonstrating the tango, but always asking to be remembered in his correspondent's prayers. These three are poles apart; hence the solace of the title.

Ivring Wardle

Hell for leather

OPERA

Orpheus in the Underworld
Coliseum

Two and a half years on David Pountney's staging of *Orpheus in the Underworld* remains basically a visual show. The operetta is muffled up to the eyebrows in Scarle, great layers of him and the problem is that from time to time Offenbach disappears from sight.

Gerald Scarle was there at the current revival to make sure that his cut-outs of the opera bourgeoisie, with their shining togas and bulbous eyes, were properly in place. And they were. He presumably checked that the outrageous costumes still had their original sparkle. And they had. And he probably noted to his satisfaction that this was still a very English approach to Offenbach.

Only the multiplicity of suspender belts, corsets and combinations give a hint of Parisian sauciness. All the rest — Pountney's staging, Saeo Wilson's translation now

flecked with a few strictly contemporary references as the D'Oyly Carte used to do with G & S, and Scarle himself — goes for the red-nosed rudery of a seaside postcard. When humans are turned into insects, as happens once or twice, they will use the extra feelers for lascivious purposes. When the gods go down to hell via a devil's mouth, they are bound to be expelled via the obvious orifice.

It is all thoroughly enjoyable, raucous and bawdy, even if it does not always make a lot of sense. Fortunately, Terry Gilbert's choreography has great panache and he has brought in some uninhibited fat ladies to swell, quite literally, the ballet girls. And Lesley Garrett is in place to lend class to proceedings as Eurydice. She began a little too desperately, as anxious as the production itself to give the audience not a dull moment. But the soprano and the sense of comedy began to show through and it was with a very Offenbachian swivel of the hips that she led the company into the final can-can.

Among the newcomers to the cast is John Brecknock, back to the ENO after five years absence, as a thoroughly

John Higgins

CATHERINE ASHMORE

East German
baritone Olaf Bär
(right) is in
London for three
recitals which
were sold out as
long ago as last
August. He talked
to Hilary Finch



A blithe spirit

The young East German baritone, Olaf Bär, is in the middle of all three of Schubert's song-cycles. *Die schöne Müllerin*, *Winterreise* and *Schwanengesang* this week at the Wigmore Hall. Five years ago, when the 26-year-old Bär made his first London appearance, it seemed as if he had come from nowhere. No recording as herald, no hype; just another debut. Now, after a handful of Lieber recordings and a Harlequin in the Royal Opera's *Ariadne auf Naxos*, he is being hailed as the new Fischer-Dieskau.

In a manner of speaking, that is. Bär is both aware of, and amusedly unperturbed by, the inevitable cross-reference and the ubiquitous critical comparison (London and West Germany are the worst offenders). He has already built up his own very prudent defences. He makes a point of not listening to Fischer-Dieskau: "I have never heard his *Schwanengesang*, or his *Winterreise*. It's so dangerous! Of course I will listen. But only when I have found my own way, had my own experiences — above all, experiences in communicating with my audiences. Then I shall see if my way is right or wrong."

Bär emphasizes, though, that he learned much from working with his regular accompanist, Geoffrey Parsons, and through him, indirectly, from the experience of other singers. "But in the end you can see what Schubert has written, and you have to do it. Nothing else!"

Is it quite so simple, though? Bär has to admit that he finds Schubert a greater test than Wolf, Schumann or Brahms. "What's so impossible? Schubert is the easy melody! Wolf writes in every expression mark, every nuance; but with Schubert you have to find the way yourself. You have only to sing it; but you can't sing it! That's why *Schöne Müllerin* is so much more difficult than *Winterreise*, the lightness of the melody, the repeated verses, the more even

rhythms. Peter Schreier agrees!"

Was Schreier a mentor? Bär spent nine years as a boy in the Dresden Kreuzchor listening to his singing. "So, yes, it was of course for me a *Verbild*, a first impression. I find his way of singing is closer to me than that of Fischer-Dieskau — though I have to say that more and more I disagree with some of the things he does!" He has had no lessons with Schreier, has always worked entirely alone interpretatively. "But he gave me a tip once: When an audience is coughing you must sing so *piantissimo* that they have to listen to you. I tried it two days ago at the Dresden Semperoper. It works!"

Winterreise, which Schubert wrote just before his early death, is seen by Bär primarily as a young man's cycle. "And I'm so glad I can bring to it the experience of being young."

Sliding off the sofa onto the floor, and roaring with laughter at the slightest excuse, Bär seems far from the angry or despairing young man. His hunger for life had manifested itself in his determination to keep operative engagements running parallel with recital work: it always was that way from his first student *Finta giardiniera* to last year's Count in Glyndebourne's *Capriccio*. There'll be Guglielmo in a new *Così* at Aix this summer, the Count in Dresden's *Figaro*, Papageno in Vienna in 1989 and Don Giovanni at Glyndebourne in 1991.

For someone so obviously down to earth about his timetable, and very much in touch with his own vocal energies, does the strain of sudden discovery and floods of engagements not pose a danger?

"Just now I am doing too much. I know it. I have to learn it for myself, though, and learn how to organize my own schedule. It's a very dangerous time for a young singer these days. You have to say not 'It's a very good word, you know'."

Venice evoked

CONCERT

BBC SO/
Pritchard
Festival Hall/
Radio 3

To the countless musical portraits of Venice, Anthony Powers has added several more, intricately superposed in his 20-minute orchestral piece *Stone, Water, Stars*, which had its first performance last night.

The title is itself a Venetian evocation, taken from Adrian Stokes, and interpreted by the composer as a signal for three kinds of music: symphonic, fluid and preordained, given by some system. On a different level of abstraction, the city of stone and water passages is mirrored in music which has its own labyrinths; and Powers proves himself a credible maze-maker in sections where brief ideas are deformed and transformed as they pass through the orchestra (an emphatic brass passage keeps popping up with almost irritating frequency).

There are also, apparently, memories of Venice's musical past. In his introductory talk, Powers spoke intriguingly of passages where musical history went into rapid rewind in the space of a few bars, taking

one back through Britten, Elgar, Wagner, Chopin and Vivaldi to Monteverdi. However, in the event these references were neither so rapid nor so clear, and the work's "tonal" slow movement seemed a slough of relapse and despondency after the carnivalesque capriciousness of what had gone before.

This fast music, the brittle skeleton of a sonata allegro, is the second of six sections that make the work, on yet another level, a single-movement symphony. Before it comes a slow introduction, beautifully aqueous, though generally it is the faster music that is the more impressive, not least because Powers's gift for quick movement is rare. So is his skill in orchestration, displayed with almost wanton prodigality in this music of lively dances and multitudinous bell pealings.

Some of it does not quite come off: the violins, strenuously worked, are sometimes covered by exuberant happenings in the rest of the orchestra, and there are passages of rather tired romantic rhetoric. One may also wonder whether the music justifies the lack of any deeper unity or urgency beneath the layers of reflection. But the BBC Symphony Orchestra under Sir John Pritchard revealed at least a work of tantalizing promises.

Paul Griffiths

Niggles still

Jenůfa
Covent Garden

When Yuri Lyubimov's Covent Garden production of *Jenůfa* first saw the light of day, in 1986, it was pointed out on this page that there were some irksome moments. In this revival they remain just as niggling.

We do not really need the banal symbolism of scattered rose petals, snowflakes and spring leaves at the beginning of each act; nor the twirling flats, one side white, the other black, nor the flashing lights when the drama becomes anything less than a farce. On the other hand, we do need Lyubimov's ability, despite such indulgences, to strike at the very heart of the drama. The best thing about his vision is its canny combination of a comparatively naked stage, very much in what will surely become known as the late 20th century tradition, with distinctly uncontroversial action. You cannot, it is true, do much with Czech peasants other than make them behave and look like Czech peasants. But Paul Herson's simple designs, based on the rising trap door principle, mark the grave at the front of the stage as the visual focal point from which the opera's twin themes of fate and, eventually, hope emanate, enveloping all.

The principal female singers who appeared in the first run all return. Ashley Putnam repeats her formidable Jenůfa, the victim of circumstance whose forced, desperate relationship with Laca turns into one of genuine depth at the last. Hers is a performance of immense strength and pas-



Jan Binkhof's Grimes-like demeanour with Ashley Putnam

sion. But it would scarcely be appropriate if he were that, since Laca spends most of the opera as an insanely jealous misfit. Binkhof's modified power, his gawky, Grimes-like demeanour, and his rumpled clothing all seem peculiarly apt for the role. Arthur Davies's well-practised Steva (he has sung the part before, for Welsh National Opera) is exactly that as he descends from swaggering, drunken confidence to heartless rejection and, eventually, to the abyss of tedious respectability.

Christian Thielemann, who becomes General Music Director at the Nürnberg Opera in September, and whose British opera debut this is, conducted what at first was a slightly ragged orchestra and an even more undisciplined chorus, though things improved as the evening wore on.

Stephen Pettitt

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FRIDAY PAGE

Fathers' day at last

Who will mind the baby? Jane Bidder reports on changes in the customs of awarding custody

When Malcolm Peters started fighting for custody of his two children, aged seven and 12, his solicitor told him not to bother. "He said mothers nearly always won unless they had done something pretty dreadful. Even my boss summoned me into the office to say I hadn't got a chance."

Peters, a 49-year-old senior technical officer from Portsmouth, told his boss to mind his own business and changed solicitors. In court, he explained to the somewhat bemused judge that although his estranged wife was not unsuitable, he honestly believed that he was the better parent. "I was often the one who'd help the children with homework or cook their meals while my wife sat in the sitting room," he says.

To his surprise, the judge did not question him about his personal life ("Anyway, I didn't even have a girlfriend then") but was more concerned with who would look after the children when they came home from school. "He was quite impressed by the fact that my parents were around to do this and help out generally," he says. "And to my relief, he gave me custody while my ex-wife has access every other week."

Eight years later, Peters is now advising other fathers on custody rights in his role as chairman of the Waterlooville branch of Gingerbread, the organization for one-parent families. It is a task which is gradually getting easier.

Statistically, the trend towards awarding custody to fathers is already making its mark. Mervin Maclean, a fellow of Wolfson College, Oxford, and author of *Maintenance after Divorce*, points out that there has been a 10 per cent increase in the number of fathers who have won custody in the last eight years. The Law Commission's recent report on custody law also notes that it is more "common for fathers to be granted custody of older children" (presumably because they do not require such specialized mothering) and that those fathers showing "competence in caring for their children and who had gone to some length to organize good child care arrangements, now stand a much better chance of obtaining custody than they did a few years ago."

So important is child care back-up that according to the Children's Legal Centre many fathers are advised to hire a nanny before court proceedings. A man often has more earning power to afford this than his estranged wife.

According to Jenny Kuper, solicitor for the CLC, "if a mother's material circumstances and mode of living were not as favourable for child-rearing as the father's, then the latter might well get custody."

"For example, a mother might lose points for having a long string of boyfriends and a father gain points if he was going to re-marry and provide a more stable upbringing," Kuper says. "Similarly, I wouldn't be too surprised if a judge was put off a mother who lived in a one-bedroom flat. And some judges would be more



Fortunate family: Martin Lightbown, who was awarded custody of his children after his wife had left, with Hannah (front), Ashley and Alex (right) — "I was amazed at how easy it was"

sympathetic to a religious father than an agnostic mother." Where you live can also make a difference. Dr Martin Richards, a lecturer in social psychology at Cambridge University and co-author of *Divorce Matters*, points out that "more south-eastern courts favour dad compared with northern judges who are more traditionally swayed towards mum."

Whatever the circumstances, there is no doubt that more men now feel encouraged to fight for their offspring and the CLC has already noticed more mothers "cleaning up their lifestyles" before court hearings. At the other extreme are women who leave their children. Abandoning ship is not always as selfish as it sounds, according to Match (Mothers Apart from Their Children). "A mother might not want her child to use up the life he's given up, such as the house or school," Carol Bilnick, London co-ordinator, says. "She may well think it's kinder to leave the children there than to take them off to a grotty bedsit."

However, selfish motives can apply to both sexes in the custody war. In America, where even more fathers are winning, scéptics (usually female) accuse fathers of trying to obtain custody in order to avoid maintenance payments. The matrimonial home is a perk which accompanies the children.

In Britain, Mediation in Divorce, which advises unhappy couples on how to part with as little acrimony as possible, finds that although many fathers start off by wanting custody,

they are eventually deterred by the practicalities of single parenthood before the case gets to court. Some fathers get custody of their children without fighting for them, like 39-year-old Martin Lightbown runs an upholstery cleaning business and has four children aged between six and 17. "My wife left without a qualm and even now, has little contact," he says. "At first I didn't apply for custody because I knew it was a big responsibility. In the end I did, because my solicitor advised me to. I was amazed at how easy it was. The judge was mainly concerned with how I'd look after the children after school. As I'm self-employed, I can often work hours to suit myself and I also have good neighbours and friends who help out. It doesn't always work out so neatly, however."

'He gave me custody while my ex-wife has access every other week'

The other day I came across a deserted husband who didn't want custody, but the judge insisted that he should have the children because he had the marital home."

Mark Smith, a sociology lecturer from Guildford, applied for custody of his seven-month-old daughter, although he was not married to the mother. His girlfriend, who did not want the child, suggested that Smith, who is 32, should apply. "The magistrate ordered a probation report on me, to check my circumstances were suitable, before granting me custody," Smith says. "I'm sure my so-called respectable" profession gave me an advantage."

Some people do not think that this

more sympathetic attitude to fathers has gone far enough. Families Need Fathers — the organization for fathers who are not with their children — claims that society is still biased against paternal custody. "If a mother walks out on the children and then decides she wants them back, she stands a good chance of retrieving custody from the father," John Bell says. A regional co-ordinator with the organization, he does not have custody of his 13-year-old daughter. "But if a man does the same, he has little chance of changing a custody order."

One possible compromise is the practice of joint custody, which, according to the experts, is growing. "The difficulty with this is that the children can end up battling to and fro from one parent's house to another," Margaret Oddy of Mediation in Divorce says.

Another answer is to give custody to someone other than the natural parents. While researching her book, Maclean came across a widowed grandfather who had custody of a clutch of his grandchildren, aged between two and six, who belonged to his divorced son and daughter.

But do single fathers — or grandfathers for that matter — make a good job of bringing up children? According to Judith Bart of Gingerbread, "fathers can be just as good at mothering". Smith says he has had his ups and downs and remembers particularly the day on which he was thrown out of the gentlemen's lavatory in a well-known chain store, because he was changing his daughter's nappy. Peters believes that "in 70 per cent of cases, mum is best. But in the remaining 30 per cent or so, dad is often the better parent. Thankfully, more judges are beginning to realize this, but it's still taking time."

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No ethics at risk

I was leafing through the American edition of *Cosmopolitan* magazine when I discovered a feature article headlined "Reassuring news about Aids". Read on, I thought. "You are a healthy, vital American woman", the article began, "and just when you've decided to have an active love life, everyone tells you that sex kills... all about you, policemen, firemen, health-care workers are donning gloves, masks, outerspace wear... Where does all this panic leave you?"

The answer, according to *Cosmopolitan*, is OK. The vital American woman is between the sheets, undeterred and ready for action. The article points out that the disease is presently pretty much confined to those high risk groups about whom we all know more than we ever wanted. Still, the British Government, like most Western governments, seems intent on acting as if heterosexuals were the primary victims. Isn't it intriguing how convoluted our thought processes have become in discussing a straightforward matter of public hygiene?

Next week, phase two of the Government's Aids campaign will launch television commercials aimed at the heterosexual community. Why? In the short term, "explains Kaye Wellings, senior research officer (Aids) at the Health Education Authority, with a somewhat enigmatic turn of phrase, "we need to alert the public to a potential problem which is not yet apparent, which may not be for some time, and whose likely outcome is unknown."

Over at Whitehall, the riddles continue. This week it was reported that the DHSS is considering anonymous blood testing of random hospital patients and pregnant women. The results of these tests would never be known by the patients or their personal physicians. The concept of identifying people with a contagious and fatal disease and then not telling them seems a rather curious approach to public hygiene. The reason given is that random tests are necessary to trace the emerging patterns of Aids, and that telling people they have the illness raises "ethical" problems. That is when the penny dropped. Surely, I thought, there is an ethical problem



BARBARA AMIEL

here, but it is not the one being raised.

It is quite possible that Aids will make the crossover from the homosexual community to heterosexual society. But the key question we should be asking ourselves is whether it is ethical to refrain from taking actions that may prevent or at least slow down and diminish the chances of this happening. At the moment the debate seems wrongly focused. The concern seems to be about "discriminating" against people with a deadly

It seems mad to remove the stigma of a disease by allowing its spread

disease, rather than protecting the interests of those who do not yet have it.

Not being a doctor, I cannot pretend to offer specifics on how to do this. But certain universal principles seem clear enough. The first one has to do with the carriers of the virus, not least of all to themselves. These people need to know simply because they cannot act decently until they do. Most people, upon recognizing that they are potentially infectious, will voluntarily refrain from those activities that allow transmission.

The next step is to isolate carriers to whatever extent is necessary. Clearly Aids is not the sort of disease that requires sending people to leper colonies, although it may mean its sufferers cannot work in professions like dentistry or in which food is handled. We should be preventing anyone

who is not a citizen from entering this country if they have the disease, just as we would prevent someone with cholera. This is not a question of punishment or morality, but a normal measure of public hygiene to protect citizens at risk.

People who may wish to travel to areas where the disease is endemic should have mandatory testing within six months of their return. Blood users, drug users and homosexuals should be obliged to have periodic tests. What on earth is stopping us?

Mandatory testing of high risk groups, one argument goes, means a number of people will "go underground". That simply illustrates that no human measure is foolproof. But you do not forgo laws that protect private property on discovering that a number of people are thieves. Speed limits on roads are made in the full knowledge that a number of people will disregard them.

What is the "ethical" problem in telling people that they have an incurable disease? We do it every day. It is awful to discover that you have cancer of the liver, but people cope. Sero-positive Aids patients may never get the disease or can hope for a cure by the time they do. There may be some "moral" connotations in having a disease largely transmitted by homosexual behaviour, but is the solution to allow the disease to spread sufficiently so that one can as easily have caught it from one's girlfriend? It seems mad to concentrate on removing the stigma of a disease by allowing it to spread.

At the moment we are refusing to employ certain measures against high risk groups that may be harsh but not unnecessarily so. The awful consequences of this is that the worry about hysterical and cruel measures being employed against these groups may well become a self-fulfilling prophecy once we really allow the spread of the disease.

The politics of Aids is a book with many chapters. But the most elementary of all is the need simply to contain the disease. You do not have to seek vainly for the morality or "ethics" of containing a deadly disease. The morality is in the act itself. Take my word for it.

From Mrs Mary Bourne, *Thorndon Approach*, Herongate, Brentwood, Essex

The two-house, or commuter marriage, would certainly be impractical for most couples ("Deadlock for wedlock?", *Wednesday Page*, February 3), but the two-bedroom marriage would not, especially when the children have left home.

Not for a Portfolio Accumulator would I go back to those nights of waiting for a late film-watching husband to come to bed, and having come to turn out the light, and having turned it out to refrain from snoring.

TALKBACK

Love and marriage

Our marriage has lasted for 48 years, but it has been at its happiest since we became sleeping partners.

As for the "marriage relationship", doors are not locked and bedrooms are closer than houses.

From Dr Leslie Isaac Hardy, *The Dates*, Collingham, West Yorkshire

The ingredients of a successful

marriage are: 1 Love; 2 Sex — an agreement about it; 3 Children — how many and at what intervals; 4 Affection — not the same as sex; 5 Companionship — to go everywhere, or nearly everywhere, together; 6 Partnership — who earns and who makes the home; 7 Examination of the family into which you are marrying; 8 An arrangement, implicit or explicit, about who gives way: "A soft answer turneth away wrath" (Proverbs, Chapter 15, verse 1).

The telephone numbers for Babemobile ("& Briefly", *Wednesday Page*, February 10) are: 01-950 6506 and 01-950 5036.

A time and a place for everyone

When a woman's place is out at work what happens to her priorities when she finds herself 'outplaced'?

At an age when she might have been expecting a gentle stroll down the road to retirement, Phyllis Dunnham found a new career: counselling those who fear their own retirement might have come too soon.

Dunnham, now in her late fifties, is a senior vice-president of the New York branch of the management consultants Drake Beam Morin (DBM) and calls herself an "outplacement specialist", a mystifying job description which simply means that she offers advice and practical help to executives who have been fired, laid off or dismissed from their jobs.

Clients referred to DBM are offered space in an office, with a phone and a secretary's services, and the appearance of employment may be maintained for as long as it takes them to find another job — one person was there for 38 months; the average is four to five months. In addition, they will be offered psychological assessments (a favourite), video training interviews and access to the DBM computerized bank of job leads, information for which is volunteered by many companies and institutions. The cost of this cocooning is met by the company which laid the person off.

Dunnham's is a delicate task and one which has allowed her an insight into the real importance of work in women's lives in a city where careers frequently come before marriage and a family. Dunnham, who in the past five years has counselled 184 clients, 89 of whom were women with sal-

aries ranging from \$40,000 to \$100,000, is well qualified to comment on the disillusionment that "outplacement" may bring.

Most of her female clients are single or married with no children, and "termination", as Dunnham puts it, gives many cause to rethink their priorities. "I'm hearing more and more from single women: 'I have knocked myself out. I have contributed — but to the detriment of my personal life. I want a job that will give me time to develop as a person and have a private life.'"

The tendency, therefore, is to make a sideways switch — which Dunnham does not encourage. "One phrase I use is: 'Keep your head in the clouds and your feet on the ground'. I remind them that a lateral move may not be the only move which would give balance to their life. They could move up in a different organization or environment and still achieve it."

Hence there is an increasing trend among women to move away from the rat-race pressures to smaller cities and to cut corporation ties altogether by forming their own companies, despite the high risk of failure among small US businesses. "Women are becoming fed up, but I have enough of the idealist in me still to hope that we can permeate and change some of the ways in which top management functions. We're not there yet, and I'm not sure we're going to arrive. But we are striving to change the organization from within rather than being out."



Specialists: Phyllis Dunnham, and members of DBM

She has worked with several women in their twenties and thirties, but most of her female clients are in their forties and fifties. "If you believe age is going to be an obstacle, it becomes one," she says, and her own experience adds weight to the theory. A widow with two sons and two grandchildren, she spent most of her life as a high school teacher, then principal, with a two-year stint as an officer commanding 100 men at the naval training centre, in San Diego, California.

She completed what she calls a three-year apprenticeship at a small outplacement firm in New York before

the way it is. Married clients are counselled with their spouses to help them adjust to the loss of income as well as the emotional trauma. In Dunnham's experience, the majority of husbands are supportive; a few, however, are either impatient for their wives to be "placed" in a new job or resentful of the freedom they have to explore career alternatives.

Nine of the 35 US offices of DBM are now headed by women. In the UK office, two of the seven consultants are female. Jo Close has been working there for almost two years as a "career consultant" and in that time has counselled only one woman. Her current caseload, most aged in their forties, includes a national sales manager, managing director and treasurer, who are all men.

None of the clients with whom she deals, she stresses, have been fired: they have all been "outplaced" — redundancy, Close says, is an awful word. Here, too, the outplaced are offered an office and secretarial services, paid for by the companies which have made them redundant; British clients' average counselling period is four to six months.

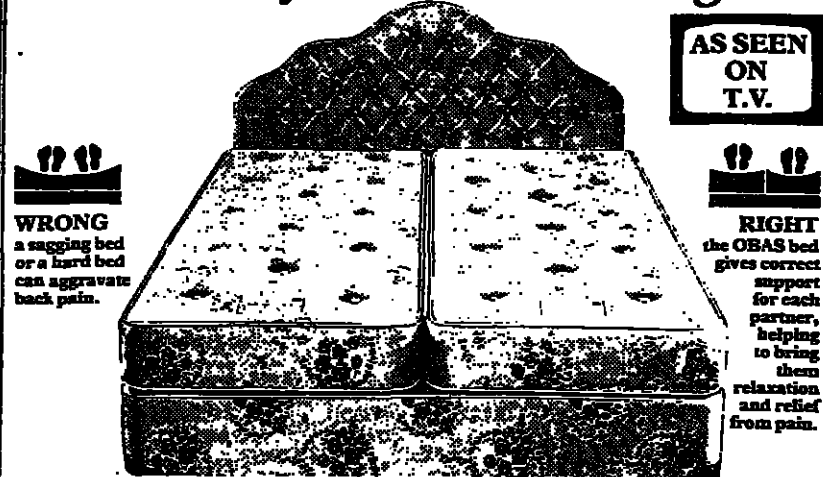
Unlike Dunnham, Close sees no difference in the needs of her male and female clients and gets angry at the suggestion that women, especially those who have invested all their energies in a career, are hit hardest. While she allows that New York and London are different, she maintains that "redundancy is a shattering experience for anyone. Age, marital status and sex do not come into it."

Donna Leigh-Kile

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Steel sale likely this autumn

Privatization of British Steel is likely to go ahead next autumn with publication of the enabling legislation today.

The Enabling Bill should have its second reading in the Commons in the week after next, putting it on course for approval by the summer. This would allow the Government to fulfil the wishes of Sir Robert Scholey, the BSC chairman, for privatization as early as November, and provide the Exchequer with proceeds now expected to be well in excess of £1 billion.

The triple bang — Big Bang, the stock market crash and resulting changes in the City — come under the scrutiny of Kenneth Flett in his column tomorrow

Peachey rise

Peachey Property Corporation reported an increase in pretax profits for the first six months to December 25 from £4.3 million to £7.8 million. The interim dividend rises to 4.5p a share, up from 3.5p.

Tempus, page 22

BT buyback

British Telecom is repurchasing the rest of its preference shares at a cost of £250 million. The remaining 250 million shares, all held by the Government, will be redeemed at par on May 10 out of general financial resources.

Clegg choice

Mr Tony Clegg, chairman of the Mountleigh property group, has recruited Mr Peter Carr, a top retailer and former managing director of Debenhams, to run his Spanish-based department stores business, Galerias Preciados.

SUMMARY

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Dow Jones	
Tokyo	
Nikkei Average	Closed
Hong Kong	
Hang Seng	2256.48 (+23.01)
Amsterdam Gen	221.5 (+3.3)
Sydney AO	1192.2 (+21.2)
Frankfurt	
Commerzbank	1310.8 (+30.5)
Brussels	
General	4298.0 (+34.1)
Paribas	281.7 (+6.1)
Zurich SCA Gen	433.3 (+5.1)
London:	
FT-A All-Share	887.23 (+8.14)
FT-30	877.30 (+8.39)
FT-100	877.30 (+8.39)
FT-Gold Mines	252.7 (-6.5)
FT-Fixed Interest	94.97 (+0.05)
FT-Govt Secs	88.51 (-0.12)
Recent issues	Page 24
Closing prices	Page 25

MAIN PRICE CHANGES

RISER	
Schroders	925p (+25p)
Fairfax	345p (+20p)
Hammerston	545p (+20p)
Rauters	150p (+15p)
Microfilm Repro	325p (+25p)
Bass	760p (+145p)
Perry Group	215p (+15p)
Nash Industries	125p (+10p)
Stratford Land	255p (+10p)
WPP	435p (+10p)
Castle Comm	190p (+15p)
FALLS	
Henderson Admin	650p (-25p)
Elys (Wimbledon)	605p (-20p)
Warford	850p (-25p)
Body Shop	835p (-10p)
Stocks	345p (-10p)
Bransell	600p (-15p)
Closing prices	

INTEREST RATES

London Bank Base	9%
3-month interbank	9 1/4%
3-month Treasury Bills	5.65-5.83%
30-year bonds	105 1/2-105 3/4%
buying rate	
US Prime Rate	9 1/4%
Federal Funds	8 1/4%
3-month Treasury	5.65-5.83%
30-year bonds	105 1/2-105 3/4%

CURRENCIES

London:	New York:
£/\$	1.7595
£/DM	2.9736
£/FF	163.33
£/Yen	236.27
£/Sfr	1.48
£/A\$	0.67
£/NZ\$	0.48
£/R\$	0.18
£/C\$	0.67
£/Mex\$	20.77

GOLD

London Gold:	
AM \$440.20 pm \$440.80	
close \$441.00-441.50 (\$250.50-251.00)	
New York:	
Comex \$440.75-441.25	

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent (Mar.)	pm \$16.40 (\$16.40)
Denotes latest trading price	
See Roundup	22
Stock Market	22
Wall Street	22
Tempus	22
Comment	22
City Diary	22

SE urged to study reform

Governor questions the role of account system

By Graham Searjeant, Financial Editor

The Governor of the Bank of England last night paved the way for a big reform of stock market dealing, by indicating that he wants the Stock Exchange to consider changing or abolishing its traditional system of fortnightly dealing accounts.

The system, under which all share deals are paid for 10 days after the end of each fixed two-week trading period, was a device to cut down paper-work in the pre-computer age. But it has long been the main vehicle for short-term speculation.

In a deceptively relaxed post-mortem on the crash, delivered at a dinner for former students of the City University Business School, Mr Robin Leigh-Pemberton, the Governor, said the system could lead to a build-up in the exposure of stock market firms to possible defaults by their customers.

"At the time of the crash, which took place in mid-account," he said "such exposures, compounded with those represented by unsettled bargains from previous accounts, gave rise to worries in the market about a number of firms and clients — which

fortunately in the event turned out to be misplaced."

This could make the likelihood of contagious collapse far greater when the whole system was under strain.

Mr Leigh-Pemberton said it was also worth examining how far the account system made it easier for speculators to deal "short" by selling shares they do not own in the hope of buying them back more

cheaply. "For both reasons, I believe that it might be helpful to reconsider the role of the account."

The suggestion is likely to cause dismay among Stock Exchange firms already hit by the sharp fall in business since the crash. The account system can delay payment for three weeks. Speculators buying and selling within the account avoid stamp duty and save commission.

They can also pay a fee to carry deals from one account to another without settling them. These carry-over mechanisms, called *cantango* and "cash and new time" dealing, are likely to come under the closest scrutiny.

The Stock Exchange will find it hard to avoid taking up the Governor's call. Mr Leigh-Pemberton went out of his way last night to praise a speech made on Wednesday by Sir Nicholas Goodison, in which the Stock Exchange chairman called for central bankers to become prime regulators of stock markets.

The Governor echoed Sir Nicholas by calling for more formal links between supervisors internationally, in both banking and securities.

He said he saw no need for artificial "circuit-breakers" on stock market prices, which would reduce the liquidity of the market and could do more harm than good.

But a study of the crash published in the Bank of England's *Quarterly Bulletin* yesterday contrasts behaviour in London and New York with that in Tokyo, where there are daily limits on movements in individual share prices. Prices fell much less in Tokyo, and stock market turnover fell sharply in the crash instead of rising as in London and New York.

Monetary policy would be "non-accommodating" in order to prevent a re-emergence of inflationary pressures, the Bank said, indicating that a firm exchange rate for the pound will remain a top priority.

Industry's costs must be "strictly contained," the *Bulletin* says, adding that wage developments are "not reassuring." However, it notes, some of the recent acceleration in pay may have occurred in those areas of the economy not exposed to international competition.

The Bank questions the sustainability of the present growth of domestic demand, but no convincing explanation is offered for why it may slow down this year.

Bank gives warning on balance of payments

By David Smith, Economics Correspondent

The Bank of England is worried about the vulnerability of Britain's balance of payments, both to strong growth in domestic demand and to a loss of invisible earnings as a result of the dollar's fall.

In its pre-Budget assessment of the economy, published last night, the Bank said there is little prospect of a sustained improvement in Britain's competitiveness, and the present growth of domestic demand may be unsustainable.

In its *Quarterly Bulletin*, the Bank held out the prospect of current account deficits for several years, adding that this could be a necessary contribution to the widely sought improvement in the US balance of payments deficit.

The Bank called on Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor, to adopt a cautious approach in his March 15 Budget. But Bank officials said this did not rule out some tax cuts.

"It will also be important for the preservation of both

internal and external balance that the anti-inflationary burden continues to be shared between monetary and fiscal policy," the Bank said, a veiled reference to the need for a tight Budget.

The Bank's preference appears to be for a target for the public sector borrowing requirement next year similar to this year's expected outcome. The PSBR is on course for a repayment of between £1 billion and £2 billion in the current year. Setting a similar target for 1988-89 would still allow the Chancellor between £2 billion and £3 billion of tax cuts, according to independent estimates.

The Bank is concerned about pay, the strength of consumer demand, the associated fall in saving, and the growth of credit.

In its assessment of the economy and monetary policy, the Bank studiously avoided signalling the need for a further rise in base rates. But it warned: "The latest

Amstrad surges to £90m

By Carol Ferguson

Amstrad, the consumer electronics group, produced results well ahead of City expectations at the interim stage. Pretax profits for the half-year to December 31 rose 29 per cent to £90 million, compared with analysts' forecasts which ranged from £75 million to £85 million.

Earnings per share rose 24 per cent to 11.58p, and the interim dividend was doubled to 0.4p net.

This strong performance caused the share price to continue its strong upward path of the last few weeks, rising 5p to 135p.

Mr Alan Sugar, the chair-

man of Amstrad, said that sales of existing products had been "excellent." He said that this reinforced his point that Amstrad does not survive on new products alone.

"The October stock market crash seems to have had absolutely no effect on sales volume, demand or attitude towards any of our products, the only negative effect being the ridiculous underrating of our company's stock price."

However, he gave a warning that the profits in the second half of the year would be flat. "I must remind shareholders to expect the balance of this financial year's sales and prof-

its to follow the industry's traditional seasonal downturn trend, which coincidentally always corresponds to the final six months of the company's financial year."

Mr Sugar said that Amstrad had formed a new subsidiary in Germany to take over the operations of its present distributor.

He said that sales of the original Amstrad word processor were running at around 250,000 a year, and the IBM compatible machines, the 1640 and the 1512, at a rate of 600,000 to 700,000 worldwide for the two combined.

Tempus, page 22



Strong start: Richard Giordano, pictured yesterday, says the group is heading for further growth (Photograph: John Rogers)

Currency movements limit BOC to £63.6m

By Alexandra Jackson

The BOC Group has had a strong start to the year, according to Mr Richard Giordano, the chairman and chief executive. However, first-quarter pretax profits to end-December only advanced from £59.1 million to £63.6 million. Currency movements depressed pretax profits by nearly £8 million.

A lower interest charge and stronger

performance from the group's related companies helped boost an otherwise marginal advance from £68.2 million to £68.9 million at the operating level. Turnover fell from £496 million to £464.8 million.

Mr Giordano reported that the group's healthcare business performed well, and that the gases business enjoyed a widespread improvement, particularly in the US, Japan and South Africa. The

other activities had matched expectations, he said.

Mr Giordano added: "This overall performance puts us on course for further growth in profits and earnings per share for the year as a whole." City analysts are expecting profits of £295 million for the year to end-September, up from £263.2 million last year. The shares gained a penny to close at 394p.

Leysen in victory claim over Benedetti

From Jonathan Brande

Mr André Leysen, the Flemish businessman who has led moves to keep Société Générale de Belgique under Belgian control, yesterday claimed victory over his Italian rival, Signor Carlo de Benedetti.

Speaking after a week of tough negotiations, Mr Leysen said he and his allies now had enough shares in the Belgian holding company to ensure that Signor de Benedetti could not get a controlling majority.

He claimed that under a pact due to be signed with Compagnie Financière de Suez, the French banking group and the French Compagnie Générale d'Electricité, his consortium could now muster a total of 47 per cent of La Générale's shares. He believed that would rise to more than 50 per cent.

Meanwhile, he claimed, Signor de Benedetti and his allies had no more than 35 per cent. Since 6 per cent of the holding company's shares would "never be sold," the Italian businessman would have no chance of getting the full 15 per cent he had bid for under his controversial public share offer of 4,000 francs (£64.10) a share.

He had been forced to sign a pact with the Suez group, he added, because of Signor de Benedetti's insistence on controlling the board of La Générale and appointing its directors. But he added that he would retire from the takeover battle unless the pact with Suez was finalized and signed by 10 am today.

He said: "I have done my part." Mr Leysen's claim was immediately rejected by sources close to Signor de Benedetti. They said some of Mr Leysen's allies could turn out to be in the Italian camp instead and that with shares now changing hands on the Brussels bourse at more than 500 francs (£80), Signor de Benedetti and his allies could still expect to find shareholders prepared to sell.

Extradition net closes round insider dealers

By Colin Narborough

The Government yesterday announced an amendment to the Criminal Justice Bill to make all insider dealing offences extraditable, plugging a gap in law that would have allowed inside traders to escape by fleeing abroad.

"I forecast a bear market for insider dealers the extradition net is tightening quicker than they may imagine," Mr John Patten, the Home Office Minister of State, said.

The move will particularly help Britain and the United States in their pursuit of suspects and offenders, adding a vital weapon to the existing armoury for combatting wrongdoing on Wall Street and in the City.

It was an information-swapping pact with the US authorities that led to the Guinness

and other affairs and brought the financial community under intense scrutiny by the official watchdogs.

But Whitehall officials denied that the extradition came in response to US pressure, or was linked to any specific cases, such as that of Mr Anthony Parnes, the former Guinness adviser currently awaiting extradition proceedings in a California jail.

In its drive to stamp out City fraud and malpractice, the Government last year included a clause in the Criminal Justice Bill which increased the maximum prison sentence for insider dealing from two years to seven.

Present extradition laws, which date back over a century, do not, however, include this relatively new crime in

their lists of extraditable offences.

Mr Patten, announcing the amendment, said it was vitally important for Britain to face as few barriers as possible in extraditing those accused or convicted of insider dealing offences.

The amendment would mean that all insider dealing offences in the United Kingdom will be extraditable, filling a gap of particular importance to treaty arrangements with the US where insider dealing already qualifies as an extraditable offence.

The Criminal Justice Bill, due to come into force this year, after receiving Royal Assent in the summer, will apply retroactively to insider traders.

Kennedy Brookes up 77% to £10m

By Our City Staff

Kennedy Brookes, the hotels and catering business, increased pretax profits by 77 per cent to £10.4 million in the year to end-October. But the more important measure, earnings per share, only advanced 19 per cent on a fully diluted basis to 21.7p.

An interim dividend of 1.66p was declared, making an

annual total of 2.64p, a 35 per cent increase.

The group has had an acquisitive year, adding to its portfolio the London Hotels, Onslow Court and London, derry and Howard Hotel in New York.

Mr Michael Golder, the Kennedy Brookes chairman, said he expected profits from

hotels to account for well above half group profits this year.

The fish restaurant chain, Wheeler's of St James's, now has 26 restaurants. Four Mario & Franco Pasta-Pizza units were opened during the year.

Tempus, page 22

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Britoil remains opposed to £2.5bn offer from BP

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

The board of Britoil yesterday decided to continue its formal opposition to BP's £2.5 billion bid for the company, and told shareholders who have not yet accepted BP's 500p-a-share offer to wait until the Treasury has made its intentions clear.

Mr David Walker, Britoil's chief executive, said the BP offer was still too low and that shareholders should take no action.

The first closing date for the BP offer is technically today, but it is on the table until at least February 26. Between now and then the Treasury will continue to meet BP and Britoil senior management, to find a set of conditions that

would allow the Britoil board to accept the BP offer.

The Britoil board, which reluctantly announced that it would pass its dividend during the oil crisis of last year, is now anxious that its remaining shareholders should be rewarded by the proposed 9p a share due to be announced early in March.

The board believes that if the BP takeover is completed by then, the shareholders will not receive sufficient payment for their past loyalty. It is estimated that those shareholders who have not accepted the BP offer are the small shareholders who backed the company from the moment it was floated by the

Government, and that a large proportion of them are from Scotland, where Britoil is the largest company.

Britoil said yesterday: "Britoil shareholders will not be disadvantaged by holding on to their shares for the time being. BP cannot close its offer except by giving 14 days' notice of its intention to do so."

BP is still pinning its hopes on winning government approval for a package that promises Britoil continued autonomy within Scotland, and further job prospects with the transferring of BP North Sea activities to Glasgow.

The powerful House of Commons select committee

on energy is about to announce that it will inquire into the Government's relationship with the independent oil companies created after the discovery of North Sea oil. It could be embarrassing in the wake of the BP-Britoil takeover battle, which has been clouded by the Government's golden share in the Glasgow company.

The Treasury has still to announce publicly whether it will allow the BP bid to move from the "unacceptable" to the "acceptable" category, which would allow the Britoil board to recommend it to the outstanding 44.5 per cent of shareholders who have not accepted the BP 500p offer.

Lloyd's agency defence setback

By Alison Eadie

RHM Outhwaite, a Lloyd's managing agency, has been refused by the High Court a 28-day extension for the delivery of its defence against a writ from Robert & Hiscox (R&H), another Lloyd's underwriting agency. The court also awarded costs against Outhwaite.

R&H issued a writ against syndicate 661, managed by Outhwaite, because of Outhwaite's refusal to pay up on run-off reinsurance policies written in 1982 and covering the liabilities of other Lloyd's syndicates, including those of Syndicate 33 run by R&H.

Syndicate 33 has not presented Syndicate 661 with an insurance claim, but wanted to test in court whether its contract with 661 was valid.

Outhwaite has been ordered by the court to deliver its defence by February 16 at the latest or be debarred from defending.

Over the past few months the Outhwaite agency has indicated it would contest its liability to meet the run-off reinsurance contracts it wrote for other syndicates because it claims the contracts were placed without adequate background disclosure.

R&H told its names: "The market as a whole has been taken by surprise by the scale of the influx of asbestos and pollution claims on the old closed years and it is ridiculous to suggest that all those underwriters who bought reinsurance from Mr Outhwaite were aware this would happen and only he was unaware."

In a letter to names this week, R&H said: "Syndicate 661 has retained solicitors who were the collector and disseminator of the information on asbestos for the (Lloyd's) Asbestos Working Party to which we were subscribers. These solicitors therefore have access to even more information than us."

Elborne Mitchell is the solicitor for Syndicate 661.

The market-wide problem of the Outhwaite run-offs has led to several lawsuits from buyers of Outhwaite policies.

A formal standstill agreement between 102 Lloyd's members' agents, which placed names on Outhwaite syndicates, and the Outhwaite agency runs to the end of this year.

The agreement aims to protect names' interests while a fact-finding exercise is carried out by Freshfields, the solicitors.

COMMENT David Brewerton

Governor strikes at the speculator's heart

Robin Leigh-Pemberton is fast building a reputation for delivering sugared but searching analyses of difficult issues. His blindingly simple suggestion, that the Stock Exchange account system should be rethought, will cause consternation among harassed brokers and market-makers, not least because its logic is hard to dispute.

Having lost its original purpose, the two-week account, with its quaint cantos and settlement days, has become an artifice to encourage speculation in the cause of greater market liquidity. It survives because it is loved by short-term traders.

For that reason, it is also loved by brokers and market-makers who make their living from maximizing the volume of share trading. Dealing within the account plays a vital role in boosting business.

Turnover has already halved from a typical 800 million shares a day in the halcyon days before the crash and fell to a miserable 352.7 million yesterday. Insiders guess that it might halve again if the account system were abolished and short-term dealers had to pay for their stock immediately or within a period fixed from the day of first purchase or sale.

That would be commercially disastrous for firms already desperate to match their expanded overheads with

trading volume. It would push thousands more out on to the City streets.

It is not just that dealing within the account is so much cheaper, though savings on (reduced) stamp duty and commissions are still a big incentive. The account system means that the majority of speculators are making their plays at the same time, opening positions at the beginning of the account with the aim of closing them by the end.

It is, therefore, much easier to build up runs in the price of a stock, because the individual speculator knows that he is not alone. For the same reason, it makes share price manipulation much easier, though that is not mentioned in polite company.

Exchange members will argue that abolishing the account would diminish the attractions of the London market as much as going back to the old high rates of stamp duty. The system will be defended, but it might at least have to be reformed.

It is odd that New York bans short-selling in a falling market whereas London actually encourages it. The length of accounts may have to be halved to match New York. Moreover, the Stock Exchange will surely have to respond to the Governor's fears over the risks of an accumulation of unsettled bargains. That might end mechanisms to carry unsettled bargains over anything up to three accounts.

The Bank's hidden fear

The central banker has to tread softly when the markets are in a highly nervous state, while at the same time showing that it is fully aware of the markets' worries. This the Bank of England, writing almost entirely between the lines, just about manages to achieve in its *Quarterly Bulletin*, published yesterday.

In the Bank's view, the dollar's fall last year has had more impact, and carries greater dangers, than the fall in the equity market, which the economy has survived remarkably well. But the response, either to a renewed dollar fall or a sharp drop in share prices would be similar - lower interest rates.

However, as in the period after October 19, the Bank is equally concerned about the danger on the other side of the monetary policy equation - excessive growth in domestic demand in Britain, strong increases in credit and pay increases.

The Bank's analysis thus contains the mechanism by which a slowdown in the economy will occur. Sterling will be held at its current levels by means of a "non-accommodating" monetary policy, the Budget will be cautious and the growth of domestic demand in general and consumer spending will come back to earth.

It is on this latter point that the

Bank's assessment is least satisfactory and for which reason the economy could be embarking on a rather bumpy ride than the authorities care to admit.

The Bank is far from convincing and far from convinced on the prospect of an autonomous slowdown in consumer spending. Much rests on a recovery in the saving ratio from its historically low level of 5 per cent in the third quarter of last year. But some of that recovery probably occurred in the final three months of 1987, when consumer spending slowed. And the other factors affecting the growth of personal demand - real incomes, the availability of credit, etc - are still pointing firmly in the direction of very strong spending.

The European economies could suddenly start growing at a pace which brings in British imports in sufficient quantities, but this seems unlikely. So something has to happen to bridge the gap between the Bank's view that the present growth in domestic demand is unsustainable.

The uncomfortable way that this may occur is through a run of poor trade figures, producing a sharp weakening of sterling and a consequent hike in interest rates. Reading between the lines, this may be the Bank's worry, too.

Brokers agree to repay £54m

From Stephen Leather Hong Kong

Three defaulting futures brokers have agreed to repay HK\$750 million (£54 million) to the Hong Kong Futures Guarantee Corporation.

Mr Gordon Macwhinnie, the chairman of the Guarantee Corporation, yesterday said that Mr Robert Ng, a director of the Sino Land property company, had agreed to act as guarantor for the money, which will be paid over the next eight years.

Announcing the agreement, Mr Macwhinnie said: "Mr Ng states that neither he nor any member of the Ng family has or had any interest in the three brokers in question."

A further HK\$250 million has still to be collected from the brokers, Mansion House, Bonstar and Solid Futures.

The three were among 40 brokers who defaulted on calls for margin payments totalling HK\$1.8 billion following the October crash.

The problems in the futures exchange came to light after the Hong Kong stock market was shut down for four days.

During the closure the Government discovered that many small investors who had been speculating on Hang Seng index futures were unable to meet their payments.

Mr Macwhinnie said the deal with Mr Ng will be concluded within the next two weeks. Under the proposed agreement, the Guarantee Corporation will receive HK\$150 million in cash and the balance in instalments over a period of eight years.

Firkin pubs up for sale

By Derek Harris



New venture: Firkin boss David Bruce, with pint

Firkin pubs, the London chain built up over nine years by Mr David Bruce producing mostly on-the-premises brews such as Dogbolter and Frogghopper, are up for sale, with the prospect of raising up to £8 million.

The estimate comes from Mr Barry Gillham, senior partner in Flewett, which specializes in hotel and licensed property valuations. There are 11 pubs and a site with planning permission in the London area.

Mr Bruce had planned to float his company, Bruce's Brewery, on the Unlisted Securities Market, but the collapse of stock markets which the property market held up brought a change of plan. He and his wife, Louise, who live in Berkshire, have found themselves getting more remote from the business as it has become bigger.

The Bruces plan to take a rest, put some money into a charitable trust for handicapped children, and then try a new business.

Brewers fear 2p on a pint

By Our Industrial Editor

Britain's brewers are bracing themselves for taxation increases on beer in next month's Budget, which they fear could once more turn sales downward.

Alcohol has escaped excise duty increases for two successive years, and if the Chancellor took account of cost-of-living increases since the last duty rise it would mean another 2p on a pint of beer.

But it would come when the market was in a "vulnerable" state, according to Mr Anthony Fuller, chairman of the

Brewers' Society, who is chairman and managing director of Fuller, Smith & Turner, the London brewer.

"For beer, which has been far more severely hit by taxation since 1979 than other drinks, there was a welcome respite," Mr Fuller said. "It accounts in part for the slight improvement in our market position."

He has just led a delegation to the Chancellor to emphasize that the industry needed a further period without duty increases

Beer sales, after four years in the doldrums, last year showed some signs of an upturn, with British beer production up 0.8 per cent and the overall market, including imports, showing a rise of 0.9 per cent. Lager is continuing to increase its share of the market at more than 45 per cent. In the South-East some brewers believe it accounts for at least half the beer sales.

The other problem facing brewers is the Monopolies and Mergers Commission report on the tied-house system,

Delay feared on Japanese whisky tax

By Colin Narbrough

The Government wants Japan to decouple plans to change its discriminatory tax on imported Scotch whisky from plans for an overall reform of the Japanese taxation system.

It is feared in Whitehall that linking the liquor tax move with a general tax overhaul could cause Japan delays in complying with the recent ruling by the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, which requires the elimination of the controversial tax differentials on imported and

domestically-produced drinks.

The government view, which has already been conveyed to Tokyo, is in line with the stance taken by FIVS, the international trade association for the wines and spirits industry, which met in Brussels this week to discuss the issue.

The FIVS, which represents 24 countries in Europe, Australasia and the Americas, called on Tokyo to implement "in full and without delay" the GATT ruling, underlining that

proposals for narrowing the tax differential between imported liquors and Japan's home-produced *shochu* would not fulfil the requirements of the ruling.

Under strong pressure from its main trade partners, including Britain, Japan has said it intends to change the present system of taxation affecting imported wines and spirits, of which Scotch whisky forms a large part.

But it has linked this to a general overhaul of the

nation's taxation system which will only come into effect from April next year.

The FIVS, to which the Scotch Whisky Association belongs, demanded that:

●The liquor tax structure in Japan be replaced by a single rate of tax, based on alcohol content for all spirits and liquors and on volume for wines;

●Import duties be reduced to levels equivalent to those levied by the EEC and North America.

Deafening silence at Citibank

Redundancies and the closure of branch offices are always unpleasant, both for the firm and the employee, but at Citibank, the giant American investment bank, they seem to be making a meal of it. According to staff at its two remaining regional offices in Birmingham and Manchester - they have received no official notification of the imminent closure of either branch and yet they are all convinced that they are about to be closed down. "Nobody has told us and yet everyone seems to know," says one depressed employee. "One of my colleagues even rang Michael Page, the recruitment consultant, to look for a job and when he told them where he worked even they said they'd heard that it was being closed down." Citibank had more than half a dozen regional offices but all but three have been closed during the past two years. The third office is in Edinburgh. Compounding the fears of the employees, latest word is that a London-based executive will be arriving in the Birmingham office today to carry out an inventory of office furniture. No one at Citibank was available for comment.

● Sign of the times. A senior sales trader from a City banking firm asked a powerful fund manager what he was planning to give up for Lent. "Commission," replied the fund manager.

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Poor but always honest

The painfully thin markets of the post-crash City have not been restricted to equities. Although still comparatively busy, the money market too has had its quiet moments and, to relieve their boredom, a number of money brokers have apparently been "playing" with their opposite numbers from rival firms, trading in supposedly hypothetical prices for a certain number of, say, red or yellow Smarties, or pounds of apples and pears. One player, who had bid for 24

pineapples, added spice to the jollities by demanding physical delivery within the standard two-day settlement period. Honouring that age-old City principle, "my word is my bond," the trader from City Broker - part of Mills and Allen - who had offered them for sale, had to go to Covent Garden at 5am the following day, to buy two crates of the fruit. "When they've got time on their hands they'll trade in anything," says managing director Bob McMurtrie.

Not his bid
Could it be that Hanson is about to emerge in Carlo de Benedetti's bid for Société Générale de Belgique? Press releases from the Olivetti chairman's camp near Turin have been signed by one James Hansen of late. But,

somewhat disappointingly, perhaps, I discovered yesterday that he is in fact Olivetti's head PR man, an American with Danish ancestry, and completed unrelated to the noble British lord. "I have never even met him," says Hansen, "although I have thought about him once or twice."



Pie-ty time
The opening night on Broadway this week of Caryl Churchill's City play, *Serious Money*, was followed by a lavish party for the cast and VIP guests, hosted by Comex, the New York commodities exchange. To remind guests of the play's London origins, Comex served steak and kidney pie in the red-carpeted trading pit. The carpet is red, I'm told, to hide the bloodstains after a bad day's dealing.

Sheppard and flock

The City's most popular male pin-up is it seems, Allen Sheppard, the Grand Metropolitan chairman who has just lost Martell but made a profit of more than £30 million in the process. Clearly it is not just male fund managers who have been impressed - women have apparently been flocking into the drinks giant's shares. All in all he can now boast almost 40,000 female shareholders - making up 37 per cent of the total. What is more, they speak for 6 million more shares than the male shareholders. "We're a young, energetic and successful company," says Sheppard, aged 55 - born on Christmas day - viscerally blushing. Sheppard, described as "vivacious" - he paces round the room while you talk to him, "by colleagues, took over from Sir Stanley Grinstead in July and will thus come face to face with the admiring hordes for the first time at its annual meeting on March 10. For fans who want an earlier glimpse, he can regularly be found walking his four red setters near his Essex home.

● Broadgate Ice, the yuppie's ice rink, in the smart new Broadgate development on the north edge of the square mile, is the venue for a Valentine's party tonight. For £2, if you bring your own skates, or £3 if you don't, you can skim round with a free glass of punch having perfected your technique after watching a demonstration from The Royal Skating Club.

Carol Leonard

Birmid Qualcast PLC Shareholders

BLUE CIRCLE'S FINAL OFFER*

380p IN CASH

BIRMIID QUALCAST SHARE PRICE

360p (best bid price at midday on 11th February 1988)

LAST BUSINESS DAY

FINAL OFFER CLOSES AT 1.00 pm ON SATURDAY 13th FEBRUARY 1988



Telephone Mark Breuer at Baring Brothers & Co., Limited (01-283 8833) if you require any assistance in accepting the offer.

*Unless there is a competing offer

This advertisement has been placed by Baring Brothers & Co., Limited on behalf of Blue Circle Industries PLC. The Directors of Blue Circle Industries PLC are the persons responsible for the information in this advertisement.

JP 146150

Portfolio PLUS NEW Accumulator

From your Portfolio gold card check your eight share price movements, on this page only. Add them up to give you your overall total and check this against the daily or accumulator dividend figures. If you win outright or a share of the daily or accumulator prize money, follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. Always have your card available when claiming. Game rules appear on the back of your card.

No.	Company	Group	Code or Initial
1	Beattie (James) A	Drugs, Stores	
2	Glass Glover	Food	
3	Johnson Cleaners	Industrial E-K	
4	Ashley	Industrial A-D	
5	Dewhurst	Electricals	
6	Holmes Pro	Industrial E-K	
7	Domino	Electricals	
8	Truvel (an)	Industrial E-K	
9	BICC (an)	Industrial E-K	
10	Flack Lovell	Electricals	
11	Vision	Industrial S-Z	
12	Armour	Industrial A-D	
13	Eng. Chim. Clay (an)	Industrial E-K	
14	Cosman	Building, Roads	
15	Taylor Woodrow	Building, Roads	
16	Cash	Textiles	
17	Old Scientific	Electricals	
18	Hampson	Motors, Aircraft	
19	Boots (an)	Industrial A-D	
20	Broken Hill	Industrial A-D	
21	Rangers Group	Drugs, Stores	
22	Alumina	Industrial A-D	
23	Dowling & Mills	Electricals	
24	Brammer	Industrial A-D	
25	Ford Motor	Motors, Aircraft	
26	Alexon	Drugs, Stores	
27	Courtesy Pope	Industrial A-D	
28	Lookers	Motors, Aircraft	
29	Crest Nicholson	Building, Roads	
30	First Leisure	Leisure	
31	Wor	Industrial S-Z	
32	Hall (M)	Industrial E-K	
33	NTW Comp	Electricals	
34	Burrell (H)	Industrial A-D	
35	Audio Fidelity	Electricals	
36	Wilson Bowden	Building, Roads	
37	Bullough	Industrial A-D	
38	Yellowhammer	Paper, Print, Adv	
39	Burdys (an)	Bank, Discount	
40	Wates	Property	
41	Oliver (G)	Drugs, Stores	
42	Under Walker	Paper, Print, Adv	
43	Cowic (T)	Motors, Aircraft	

Please take into account any minus signs

Weekly Dividend
Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £3,000 in tomorrow's newspaper.

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN

BRITISH FUNDS

1987/88 High Low Stock Price Change %

SHORTS (Under Five Years)

1987/88 High Low Stock Price Change %

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS

1987/88 High Low Stock Price Change %

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS

1987/88 High Low Stock Price Change %

UNDATED

1987/88 High Low Stock Price Change %

INDEX-LINKED

1987/88 High Low Stock Price Change %

BANKS, DISCOUNT, HP

1987/88 High Low Stock Price Change %

ELECTRICALS

1987/88 High Low Stock Price Change %

DRAPERY, STORES

1987/88 High Low Stock Price Change %

CINEMAS, TV

1987/88 High Low Stock Price Change %

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS

1987/88 High Low Stock Price Change %

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

1987/88 High Low Stock Price Change %

FOODS

1987/88 High Low Stock Price Change %

HOTELS, CATERERS

1987/88 High Low Stock Price Change %

INDUSTRIALS A-D

1987/88 High Low Stock Price Change %

FINANCE, LAND

1987/88 High Low Stock Price Change %

LEISURE

1987/88 High Low Stock Price Change %

MINING

1987/88 High Low Stock Price Change %

MOTORS, AIRCRAFT

1987/88 High Low Stock Price Change %

SHIPPING

1987/88 High Low Stock Price Change %

SHOES, LEATHER

1987/88 High Low Stock Price Change %

TEXTILES

1987/88 High Low Stock Price Change %

OILS, GAS

1987/88 High Low Stock Price Change %

TOBACCO

1987/88 High Low Stock Price Change %

NEWSPAPERS, PUBLISHERS

1987/88 High Low Stock Price Change %

PAPER, PRINT, ADVERTISING

1987/88 High Low Stock Price Change %

OVERSEAS TRADERS

1987/88 High Low Stock Price Change %

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Best levels not held

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began Monday. Dealings end February 19. Settlement day February 22. Settlement day February 29. Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close. Where one price is quoted, it is a middle price. Changes, yields and price earnings ratios are based on middle prices. (an) denotes Alpha Stocks. (VOLUMES PAGE 24)

No.	Company	Group	Code or Initial	1987/88 High	1987/88 Low	1987/88 Stock Price	Change %	1987/88 P/E
1	Beattie (James) A	Drugs, Stores		1.12	1.08	1.10	+0.02	12.5
2	Glass Glover	Food		0.85	0.82	0.84	+0.02	11.2
3	Johnson Cleaners	Industrial E-K		0.65	0.62	0.64	+0.02	10.8
4	Ashley	Industrial A-D		0.55	0.52	0.54	+0.02	9.5
5	Dewhurst	Electricals		0.45	0.42	0.44	+0.02	8.2
6	Holmes Pro	Industrial E-K		0.35	0.32	0.34	+0.02	7.8
7	Domino	Electricals		0.25	0.22	0.24	+0.02	6.5
8	Truvel (an)	Industrial E-K		0.15	0.12	0.14	+0.02	5.2
9	BICC (an)	Industrial E-K		0.05	0.02	0.04	+0.02	4.8
10	Flack Lovell	Electricals		0.05	0.02	0.04	+0.02	3.5
11	Vision	Industrial S-Z		0.05	0.02	0.04	+0.02	2.2
12	Armour	Industrial A-D		0.05	0.02	0.04	+0.02	1.8
13	Eng. Chim. Clay (an)	Industrial E-K		0.05	0.02	0.04	+0.02	1.5
14	Cosman	Building, Roads		0.05	0.02	0.04	+0.02	1.2
15	Taylor Woodrow	Building, Roads		0.05	0.02	0.04	+0.02	1.0
16	Cash	Textiles		0.05	0.02	0.04	+0.02	0.8
17	Old Scientific	Electricals		0.05	0.02	0.04	+0.02	0.6
18	Hampson	Motors, Aircraft		0.05	0.02	0.04	+0.02	0.5
19	Boots (an)	Industrial A-D		0.05	0.02	0.04	+0.02	0.4
20	Broken Hill	Industrial A-D		0.05	0.02	0.04	+0.02	0.3
21	Rangers Group	Drugs, Stores		0.05	0.02	0.04	+0.02	0.2
22	Alumina	Industrial A-D		0.05	0.02	0.04	+0.02	0.1
23	Dowling & Mills	Electricals		0.05	0.02	0.04	+0.02	0.0
24	Brammer	Industrial A-D		0.05	0.02	0.04	+0.02	-0.1
25	Ford Motor	Motors, Aircraft		0.05	0.02	0.04	+0.02	-0.2
26	Alexon	Drugs, Stores		0.05	0.02	0.04	+0.02	-0.3
27	Courtesy Pope	Industrial A-D		0.05	0.02	0.04	+0.02	-0.4
28	Lookers	Motors, Aircraft		0.05	0.02	0.04	+0.02	-0.5
29	Crest Nicholson	Building, Roads		0.05	0.02	0.04	+0.02	-0.6
30	First Leisure	Leisure		0.05	0.02	0.04	+0.02	-0.7
31	Wor	Industrial S-Z		0.05	0.02	0.04	+0.02	-0.8
32	Hall (M)	Industrial E-K		0.05	0.02	0.04	+0.02	-0.9
33	NTW Comp	Electricals		0.05	0.02	0.04	+0.02	-1.0
34	Burrell (H)	Industrial A-D		0.05	0.02	0.04	+0.02	-1.1
35	Audio Fidelity	Electricals		0.05	0.02	0.04	+0.02	-1.2
36	Wilson Bowden	Building, Roads		0.05	0.02	0.04	+0.02	-1.3
37	Bullough	Industrial A-D		0.05	0.02	0.04	+0.02	-1.4
38	Yellowhammer	Paper, Print, Adv		0.05	0.02	0.04	+0.02	-1.5
39	Burdys (an)	Bank, Discount		0.05	0.02	0.04	+0.02	-1.6
40	Wates	Property		0.05	0.02	0.04	+0.02	-1.7
41	Oliver (G)	Drugs, Stores		0.05	0.02	0.04	+0.02	-1.8
42	Under Walker	Paper, Print, Adv		0.05	0.02	0.04	+0.02	-1.9
43	Cowic (T)	Motors, Aircraft		0.05	0.02	0.04	+0.02	-2.0

Portfolio PLUS NEW Accumulator

DAILY DIVIDEND £4,000

Claims required for 38 points

ACCUMULATOR £44,000

Claims better than 38 points

Claimants should ring 0254-53272

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FOREIGN EXCHANGES

STERLING INDEX COMPARED WITH 1975 WAS DOWN AT 74.3 (LAST WEEK 74.5)

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES			
Market rates for February 11	1 month	3 month	6 month
Argentine dollar	100.00	100.00	100.00
Australia dollar	100.00	100.00	100.00
Bahraini dinar	100.00	100.00	100.00

Sweden _____ 6.4380-6.4450
Norway _____

MONEY MARKETS

MONEY MARKETS

103 Unit Group

GOLD

	Open	High	Low	Close
Three Month Sterling	90.42	90.44	89.43	89.43
PLZ	90.42	90.44	89.43	89.43
Previous open interest	35199			
US Treasury Bond				
Mar 88				95-01
Jun 88				94-04
95-09				94-04

COMMODITIES

LONDON FOX
G W Joynson

<p>The fact that the Merc mentioned to hold support bids for the oil and an extremely high traded order flow. Prices held steady through an equally intense afternoon. Products held in trade with the exception of grain.</p>				<p>Mar 1054-053 Mar 1057-125 May 1076-075 1059-255 SPC 1116-115</p>				<p>Dec 1127-125 Mar 1057-125 May 1076-075 1059-255 SPC 1116-115</p>				<p>Copper 1356.0-1356.0 1230.0 Copper 1350.0-1370.0 1230.0 Copper 1350.0-1370.0 1230.0 Copper 1350.0-1370.0 1230.0 Copper 1350.0-1370.0 1230.0</p>			
<p>CRUDE OIL/assessed (CINCL)</p>				<p>GAS OIL G.W. Joynson</p>				<p>COFFEE</p>				<p>Wheat</p>			
<p>Br/Lite 18.10 +0.10</p>				<p>Mar 138.00-07.50</p>				<p>Mar 138.00-07.50</p>				<p>Mar 138.00-07.50</p>			
<p>Crude 18.10 +0.10</p>				<p>Apr 137.75-07.50</p>				<p>Mar 138.00-07.50</p>				<p>Mar 138.00-07.50</p>			
<p>15 day Mar 17.15</p>				<p>Jun 139.25-08.00</p>				<p>Jun 139.25-08.00</p>				<p>Jun 139.25-08.00</p>			
<p>WTI Apr 16.45</p>				<p>Oct 140.25-08.00</p>				<p>Oct 140.25-08.00</p>				<p>Oct 140.25-08.00</p>			
<p>WTI Apr 16.45</p>				<p>Dec 141.50-08.00</p>				<p>Dec 141.50-08.00</p>				<p>Dec 141.50-08.00</p>			
<p>WTI Apr 16.45</p>				<p>Feb 142.50-08.00</p>				<p>Feb 142.50-08.00</p>				<p>Feb 142.50-08.00</p>			
<p>WTI Apr 16.45</p>				<p>Apr 143.50-08.00</p>				<p>Apr 143.50-08.00</p>				<p>Apr 143.50-08.00</p>			
<p>WTI Apr 16.45</p>				<p>Jun 144.50-08.00</p>				<p>Jun 144.50-08.00</p>				<p>Jun 144.50-08.00</p>			
<p>WTI Apr 16.45</p>				<p>Oct 145.50-08.00</p>				<p>Oct 145.50-08.00</p>				<p>Oct 145.50-08.00</p>			
<p>WTI Apr 16.45</p>				<p>Dec 146.50-08.00</p>				<p>Dec 146.50-08.00</p>				<p>Dec 146.50-08.00</p>			
<p>WTI Apr 16.45</p>				<p>Feb 147.50-08.00</p>				<p>Feb 147.50-08.00</p>				<p>Feb 147.50-08.00</p>			
<p>WTI Apr 16.45</p>				<p>Apr 148.50-08.00</p>				<p>Apr 148.50-08.00</p>				<p>Apr 148.50-08.00</p>			
<p>WTI Apr 16.45</p>				<p>Jun 149.50-08.00</p>				<p>Jun 149.50-08.00</p>				<p>Jun 149.50-08.00</p>			
<p>WTI Apr 16.45</p>				<p>Oct 150.50-08.00</p>				<p>Oct 150.50-08.00</p>				<p>Oct 150.50-08.00</p>			
<p>WTI Apr 16.45</p>				<p>Dec 151.50-08.00</p>				<p>Dec 151.50-08.00</p>				<p>Dec 151.50-08.00</p>			
<p>WTI Apr 16.45</p>				<p>Feb 152.50-08.00</p>				<p>Feb 152.50-08.00</p>				<p>Feb 152.50-08.00</p>			
<p>WTI Apr 16.45</p>				<p>Apr 153.50-08.00</p>				<p>Apr 153.50-08.00</p>				<p>Apr 153.50-08.00</p>			
<p>WTI Apr 16.45</p>				<p>Jun 154.50-08.00</p>				<p>Jun 154.50-08.00</p>				<p>Jun 154.50-08.00</p>			
<p>WTI Apr 16.45</p>				<p>Oct 155.50-08.00</p>				<p>Oct 155.50-08.00</p>				<p>Oct 155.50-08.00</p>			
<p>WTI Apr 16.45</p>				<p>Dec 156.50-08.00</p>				<p>Dec 156.50-08.00</p>				<p>Dec 156.50-08.00</p>			
<p>WTI Apr 16.45</p>				<p>Feb 157.50-08.00</p>				<p>Feb 157.50-08.00</p>				<p>Feb 157.50-08.00</p>			
<p>WTI Apr 16.45</p>				<p>Apr 158.50-08.00</p>				<p>Apr 158.50-08.00</p>				<p>Apr 158.50-08.00</p>			
<p>WTI Apr 16.45</p>				<p>Jun 159.50-08.00</p>				<p>Jun 159.50-08.00</p>				<p>Jun 159.50-08.00</p>			
<p>WTI Apr 16.45</p>				<p>Oct 160.50-08.00</p>				<p>Oct 160.50-08.00</p>				<p>Oct 160.50-08.00</p>			
<p>WTI Apr 16.45</p>				<p>Dec 161.50-08.00</p>				<p>Dec 161.50-08.00</p>				<p>Dec 161.50-08.00</p>			
<p>WTI Apr 16.45</p>				<p>Feb 162.50-08.00</p>				<p>Feb 162.50-08.00</p>				<p>Feb 162.50-08.00</p>			
<p>WTI Apr 16.45</p>				<p>Apr 163.50-08.00</p>				<p>Apr 163.50-08.00</p>				<p>Apr 163.50-08.00</p>			
<p>WTI Apr 16.45</p>				<p>Jun 164.50-08.00</p>				<p>Jun 164.50-08.00</p>				<p>Jun 164.50-08.00</p>			
<p>WTI Apr 16.45</p>				<p>Oct 165.50-08.00</p>				<p>Oct 165.50-08.00</p>				<p>Oct 165.50-08.00</p>			
<p>WTI Apr 16.45</p>				<p>Dec 166.50-08.00</p>				<p>Dec 166.50-08.00</p>				<p>Dec 166</p>			

Motoring by Clifford Webb

Heads and tails winners for BMW

In recent months BMW has boosted its already much-vaunted reputation as a world-beating engine designer by producing two more outstanding engines at opposite ends of its range.

The new M40 four-cylinder 1.8-litre powers the latest 318i, which at £11,575 (2-door) is only one step up the ladder from the very basic 316. Appreciably smoother, quieter and more powerful than the old M10, it could be mistaken for BMW's outstanding two-litre six.

The new five-litre V12 all-alloy weighs only 520lb yet produces 300 bhp and runs the "ultimate" BMW, the £33,750 750iL (long wheel-base), up to 155mph.

I was lucky enough recently to test these two models. The new 318i has gone a long way towards closing the big gap which previously existed between it and the cheapest of the sixes, the £13,100 320i.

It is nearly ten per cent more powerful than the old engine and there is much more torque at lower revs. As a result the 1988 318i responds to the throttle in fourth and fifth gears like a much bigger engine. It also runs on two-star petrol and with the help of the latest Bosch fuel injection and engine management systems will accept unleaded petrol.

The 750iL is breathtaking in its engineering concept and styling. While disagreeing with their choice I can understand why colleagues in the Guild of Motoring Writers voted it "Top Car 1988". In my view, however, value for money should play a bigger part in the choice, and at a shade under £54,000 it is a very expensive car.

You could buy a Jaguar Sovereign 5.3-litre V12 for £28,900 and still have sufficient left over to get a Jaguar



BMW 318i: 10 per cent more power on two-star petrol

XJS 3.6 coupé for your wife. Because of its five litres and twelve cylinders it is all too easy to treat it as an out-and-out performance car. It will move from standstill to 62mph (100kph) in 7.4 seconds and hold 140 mph plus on the autobahn all day. But that is not its primary role in

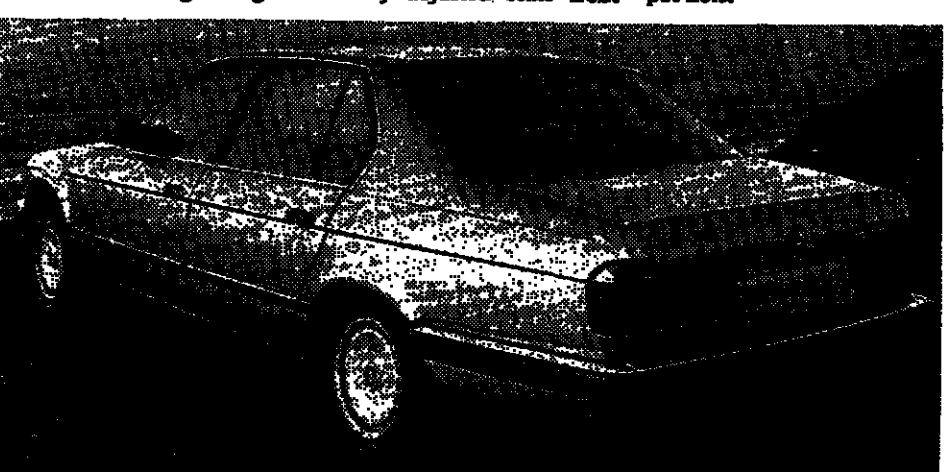
life. It is intended to be a strong competitor for the luxurious Mercedes 500 and even Rolls Royce/Bentleys. The space age equipment includes four-speed automatic, with a choice of Sport, Economy or Manual, electrically adjusted seats front

and back, air conditioning, switchable Sport or Comfort suspension settings, ABS anti-lock brakes, Automatic Stability Control, to compensate for driver error or road conditions, anti-theft systems, alloy wheels, cruise control, electric sunroof, and an electronic accelerator pedal.

Vital statistics

Model: BMW 318i, 2-door
Price: £11,575
Engine: 1795cc, four cylinder
Performance: 0-62 mph, 10.8 seconds, maximum speed 117 mph
Official consumption: urban 29.1 mpg, 55 mph 47.1 mpg, and 75 mph 35.8 mpg
Length: 14.2 feet
Insurance: Group 7

Model: BMW 750iL
Price: £53,750
Engine: 4988cc, alloy V12
Performance: 0-62 mph, 7.4 seconds, maximum speed 155 mph
Official consumption: urban 13.8 mpg, 55 mph 31.7 mpg, and 75 mph 25.4 mpg
Length: 16.5 feet
Insurance: Group 9



BMW 750iL: new engine pushes speed up to 155mph

Ford takes a leap ahead with Cosworth

The new Ford Sierra RS Cosworth which went on sale this week will be a formidable competitor for BMW's new 5-Series. It has a five-month lead because the new BMW will not arrive before mid-June.

So impressive is the 150bhp Ford that even on the slender evidence of one short drive I have no hesitation in declaring this the most outstanding Ford for a very long time. At £19,900 it represents exceptional value for money.

There is only one problem. The name Ford is still synonymous with mass-produced, run-of-the-mill cars. Give it BMW cachet and Ford could quadruple the five thousand it plans to produce this year and still add another £5,000 to the price.

The previous Cosworth, based on the hatchback rather than the present bodied Sapphire body, was over embellished with "go faster" paraphernalia including a huge coffee-tray rear air dam. It was noisy, bumpy, and impossible to drive in a relaxed way.

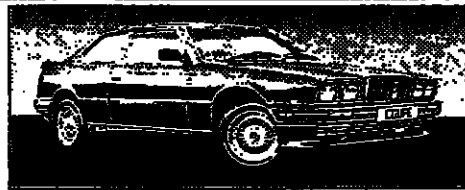
The new one is more restrained, but it is still one of the fastest production cars around. The two-litre turbo-charged engine gives it blistering acceleration - 0-60 mph in six seconds. I cannot wait to do a full road test.

CAR BUYERS' GUIDE

PERFORMANCE CARS

MASERATI

MASERATI



BITURBO

COUPÉ

The Maserati legend is back in Britain with the luxurious Biturbo Coupé.

A luxury four-seat, two door coupé, with the superbly engineered twin-turbo V6 unit, gives a top speed of over

140 mph and a 0-60 time of under 6.6 seconds. Sensitised differential giving maximum traction, air conditioning as standard, plus a 6 year anti-corrosion warranty.

From £24,795 to £33,852

JAMES YOUNG, 12 Berkeley Street, London W1, Tel: 01 491 1888, (Sunday) - 0836 281610

Stop Press - available immediately, Spider SE, Black/Beige.

Full range available for demonstration.

A.M.B. MOTOR GROUP LTD, Riverside Road, Leeds, Yorkshire, Tel: 0532 406971.

Full range available for demonstration.

AMERSHAM MOTORS, Chesham Road, Amersham, Bucks, Tel: 02943 22191.

Biturbo 425 Saloon, Black, Full Beige Leather Trim, OZ wheels.

1987 Biturbo Coupé, Maserati Red, Full Leather, 7,000 miles, Stereo, Air Conditioning, P.O.A.

Biturbo 425 Saloon, Blue Silver, Cloth Trim.

Spider, Maserati Red, Beige Navolato Leather Trim.

1987 Biturbo Coupé, Maserati Red, Cloth Trim, Radio/Cassette, 4,000 miles only, P.O.A.

CHEYLSMORE GARAGES (HOCKLEY HEATH) LTD, Stratford Road, Hockley Heath, Solihull, W. Midlands, Tel: 05643 2244.

CLOVER LEAF CARS, Basing, London Road, A30, Basingstoke, Hampshire, Tel: 0256 55221.

New Maserati in stock now.

Biturbo Spyder, Black Coachwork, Beige Navolato Full Leather Interior, Air Conditioning, Power Steering, P.O.A.

Biturbo 425, 4-Door Saloon, Metallic Dark Aquamarine Coachwork, Hand Sewn Leather Facing, Central Locking, Power Windows, Air Conditioning, Alloy Wheels, P.O.A.

JOHN DANGERFIELD GARAGES, Staple Hill Road, Fishponds, Bristol, Avon, Tel: 0272 566525.

1987 Coupé, Red, 24,000 miles, P.O.A.

DRAKE AND FLETCHER, London Road, Maidstone, Kent, Tel: 0622 59161.

JACK ROSE LTD, Stafford Road, Wallington, Surrey, Tel: 01 647 4473.

425 Sports Saloon, Blue Silver, 3,500 miles only, P.O.A.

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BOWLS

Disappointment for England as Welsh track the favourites

From David Rhys Jones, Auckland

David Bryant, of England, who maintained his unbeaten record in the singles, and Stanley Espie, of Ireland, who lost his, were upstaged in the BNZ world championships here yesterday by four teams from England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales.

The first three were involved in a series of remarkable games which left them all in contention for a place in tomorrow's final, though for England there was a double disappointment when Ottaway, Richards, Bell and Alcock were held to a 20-20 tie by McCutcheon, McLoughlin, Allen and Baker, of Ireland, and watched helplessly as Scotland avoided a humiliating defeat against Jersey with an unexpected count of six on the final end.

The Scots, Paul, Knox,

Adrian and McIntosh, later allowed the erratic Canadian four to spoil their unbeaten record, 14-23, when Boettger once again proved a dangerous adversary at skip, but Ireland escaped from Argentina's grip, coming back from 12-16 to win 24-16 over the last five ends.

This left England behind Ireland and Scotland in the section A table, with only three sessions left to play, but because the two top teams have yet to play each other, Alcock's men hope to finish at least in second place and qualify for the play-off for a bronze medal.

In section B, the Welsh four, Vawles, Alun Thomas, Will Thomas and Morgan, beat Switzerland by 33 shots and Zimbabwe in an exciting finish, by two, to shadow the

New Zealanders, who are favourites to win both the fours and the Leonard Trophy for the top team.

Bryant overwhelmed Ueyama, of Japan, 25-1, before clinically despatching the 1984 world champion, Peter Belliss, of New Zealand. Bryant, at his most determined, ditched the Jack with his third bowl on the first end and, after that psychological blow, the result was never in doubt. Bryant's main rival in section A, Espie, after beating Tuulola, of Western Samoa, 25-18, lost to Souza, of Hong Kong, 25-21.

Willie Wood and Kenny Williams are level at the top of section B and will meet this afternoon in a match which is likely to decide who will play in Sunday's final.

RESULTS: Singles: Section A: Bryant (Eng) 25-1 Ueyama (Jpn); Wood (W) 25-18 Belliss (NZ); Souza (HK) 25-21 Espie (Ire); Tuulola (Fin) 25-18 Wood (W); Section B: Vawles (W) 33-10 Switzerland; Thomas (W) 33-10 Zimbabwe; Alun Thomas (W) 33-10 Switzerland; Morgan (W) 33-10 Zimbabwe; Section C: Wood (W) 25-18 Belliss (NZ); Souza (HK) 25-21 Espie (Ire); Tuulola (Fin) 25-18 Wood (W); Section D: Vawles (W) 33-10 Switzerland; Thomas (W) 33-10 Zimbabwe; Alun Thomas (W) 33-10 Switzerland; Morgan (W) 33-10 Zimbabwe.

TABLES FROM AUCKLAND

Singles	W	D	L	Pts
SECTION A				
England	8	0	0	16
Hong Kong	8	0	0	16
Ireland	8	0	0	16
Zimbabwe	8	0	0	16
New Zealand	8	0	0	16
Papua NG	8	0	0	16
Samoa	8	0	0	16
United States	8	0	0	16
Zambia	8	0	0	16
Japan	8	0	0	16
SECTION B				
Scotland	8	0	0	16
Argentina	8	0	0	16
Guernsey	8	0	0	16
Israel	8	0	0	16
Malawi	8	0	0	16
Switzerland	8	0	0	16
United States	8	0	0	16
Wales	8	0	0	16
Zimbabwe	8	0	0	16
Kenya	8	0	0	16

JUDO

Searching for the Japanese touch

By Nicolas Soames

The British men's team manager, including the Olympic lightweight bronze medal winner, Kenneth Brown, the opening event of the European circuit this weekend, and his concern is not so much medals but who among his fighters performs well and who does not. The answer will be of Olympic significance.

What he needs to know is how soon before the Olympic event should he take his fighters to

Japan for fighting training. Half of the team, including the Olympic lightweight bronze medal winner, Kenneth Brown, prefer to have a sizeable gap between the European circuit and the Olympic event to have time to readjust to the more angular European style of competition.

The other half, including the Olympic bantamweight bronze medal winner, Neil Eckerley, feel they come back from a month in Japan in peak con-

dition, ready and even hungry for a major event. His club colleague, the featherweight, John Adair, similarly prefers to go straight into the fray. They will both have their chance to prove their preference at the Tournoi de Paris, for the British squad returned just eight days ago.

With all the leading judo countries gathering in Paris, the Tournoi promises to be as exciting as always.

Simon Barnes encounters an everyday race meeting, American style

Running dollars into the dirt

Naturally, every barn has its own ice machine. Ice is an essential tool for training racehorses out here. I was at Santa Anita racetrack in Los Angeles winning and losing horse races in the same way over, but all the same, I felt a very long way from Newmarket.

There is even a new jargon to learn, breezing and walking bots, and there is a new concept to understand: the all-pervasive ticking of the clock. People keep telling you that a horse has worked such a distance and such a time, and then looking at you expectantly. You don't know whether to say "Way to go" or "Too bad, old thing". (Actually, best to return serve by killing the spin: ask "Breezing?")

English racing thrives on rumour. Last season, it was impossible to go to the races without hearing that Reference Point had gone over the top. Everyone is yearning to know what everyone else is up to, while trainers frantically try to surround their preparations with secrecy.

In California, there are no rumours, only facts. If, say, the mighty Ferdinand started to slow down in his work, the world would not suspect, it would know. His times would not just be whispered about among the kids, either: they would be in the newspapers, too.

This is centralized racing. There are no private training grounds, no private stables. Every horse lives and works at the racetrack. The present race meeting at Santa Anita started on December 26, and will go on until April 25. There are races five times a week, nine races on every card.

Horse's every move is recorded on the clock

Santa Anita is not just a racetrack: it is also a vast training centre. More than 3,000 horses are trained there.

They live, not in yards scattered about the countryside, or tucked in behind Newmarket High Street, but in a collection of communal barns, built in the classic American grid pattern. "Where is Charlie Whittingham's barn?"

"Three blocks over and then to your right."

The horses do all their work on the racetrack, which is, of course, dirt. (There is a grass track at Santa Anita, but it is fragile, little used and jealously protected. California is basically a desert, and the poorest lawn needs constant sprinkling to survive.) Horses all share the same tight oval: colts and fillies and all, in a great confusing equine traffic jam. Each horse will exercise about 20 minutes at a time under a work-rider, who will ride half a dozen or more horses a day. Afterwards they are walked for 40 minutes, normally by an unmounted "hot walker".

The horses use the racetrack for



Equal to the hyperbole: Bill Shoemaker (left) and Charles Whittingham

trotting, for cantering (confusingly called galloping) and for their serious work. All work beyond a canter is clocked, by trainers, by eagle-eyed punters who watch the morning work, and by official clockers above the grandstand. A trainer must inform the track which horses are working which distances every day.

The times are officially published, along with a remark on the nature of the gallop. A horse might be "driven", that is, chased along with a whip as they slip coffee from styrofoam cups, and by official clockers above the grandstand. A trainer must inform the track which horses are working which distances every day.

There are some marvellous pluses for a trainer in California. The quality of the fodder, especially the hay, would make an English trainer drool, not to mention his horses. The stable-hands, too, are almost all marvellous at their jobs. They are mainly Mexican, meticulous, soft-footed and gentlemanly.

They need to be, because the downside of Californian racing is the track. The hard, unyielding surface of the dirt track really takes it out of a horse's legs. The only way to get a

horse fit and sound is constant attention. After exercise, a horse will stand with its forelegs in buckets of ice. The groom will later massage his legs for half an hour or so before bandaging them.

John Sullivan has trained racehorses in California for about 30 years, though he still sounds as if he had left Ireland last week. Californian racing is full of English and Irish, training and riding work. Sullivan said: "The Mexicans are quiet and gentle, and they'll tame your outlaw horse. You need to train a small string here, smaller than you would in England. Your horses need more individual attention here, because of the hard track."

Owners have enormous financial incentives

There is one thing about Californian racing that is the envy of every racing person in Britain: money. Pits and pots of the stuff. Out there, an owner has something like a 50-50 chance of breaking even. In England, the chances are more like one in 10.

"A trainer here can make a living with less than 20 horses, a pretty good

Bald eagle training the fliers

They call Charlie Whittingham "The Bald Eagle". It is the sort of thing they do over here. But he is the sort of man that deserves such hyperbole: a theatrically bald head and a record of training success that goes on forever. In partnership with the incomparable jockey, Bill Shoemaker, he has won just about everything in American racing, and then won it all over again.

He trains Ferdinand, who was voted Horse of the Year a fortnight back. Ferdinand is a big red handsome devil who rears in his own superciliousness in the darkness of the barns at Santa Anita he glows like a beacon.

"It's just my job," Whittingham said. "And nobody commits suicide if he has a young horse - it might be the next Derby winner. The next crop is always the best ever, isn't it? And I've done this job all my life. If I didn't do it I'd probably just be an old drunk."

I asked him about England. "Your training grounds are nicer," he said. "Here we have to get in and get out again. In England you can give your horses a more leisurely time. And your courses are better: a bad grass track is better than a good dirt track. We'd like your training facilities, and I guess you'd like our purses. But you have those bookies, don't you?"

Christopher Speckert, an Englishman training a small string at Santa Anita, said. "The prize-money is huge. Winning one decent race can pay a horse's training fees for a year. Just the other day, I had \$2,600 for fourth place in a routine race." Ferdinand, America's Horse of the Year, has won \$3.3 million (about £1.9 million) in prize-money. To do that in England, he would need to win the King George six years running.

While English racing has a zing that California cannot match - "It is more of a business here, more of a production line, and less of a sport," Speckert conceded - that zing is bought at a huge price. Let me quote James Underwood, writing some months back in the *British and Irish Breeding Update*.

"Bookmakers have become so rich they are having to search all over the world for profitable schemes to invest in. Yet racemasters are still semi-slaves, prize-money is far below that in many countries which race the runt of the thoroughbred breed, owners are quitting the sport at a snowballing rate and the small breeder, in spite of often producing an animal that in blood and type is superior to that produced in most parts of the world, is being driven out of existence."

House of Lords

Law Report February 12 1988

Court of Appeal

EEC law no aid in constraining UK Acts Curb on groundless road cases sought

Duke v GEC Reliance Ltd (formerly Reliance Systems Ltd)

Before Lord Keith of Kinkaid, Lord Brandon of Oakbrook, Lord Templeman, Lord Oliver of Aylmerton and Lord Goff of Chelvey [Speeches February 11]

The construction of the British Act of Parliament was a matter of judgment to be determined by the British courts, to be derived from the legislation considered in the light of the circumstances prevailing at the date of the enactment.

Accordingly section 6(1A) of the Equal Pay Act 1970 and section 6(4) of the Sex Discrimination Act 1975, in the form they had taken prior to their amendment by the Sex Discrimination Act 1986, did not fall to be construed in accordance with the provisions of the Equal Treatment Directive (76/207/EEC) (OJ 1975 No L45 p19), and differential retirement ages for men and women were allowed within the meaning of the sections in that form.

The House of Lords so held when dismissing an appeal by the employee, Mrs Eileen Alice Marjorie Duke, against a decision of the Court of Appeal (The Times February 23, 1988; [1987] 2 WLR 1225; [1987] ICR 491). The Court of Appeal had dismissed the employee's appeal from a decision of the Employment Appeal Tribunal, which had, in turn, dismissed her appeal from a decision of an industrial tribunal that the employers, GEC Reliance Ltd (formerly Reliance Systems Ltd) had not unlawfully discriminated against her on the ground of her sex, contrary to section 6(2)(b) of the Sex Discrimination Act 1975 by requiring her to retire at 60.

Mr Michael Beloff, QC and Miss Judith Beale for the employee, Mr Eldred Tabachnick, QC and Mr Patrick Elias for the employers.

LORD TEMPLEMAN said that the appeal raised questions of construction of an Act of Parliament in the light of laws passed by the EEC.

The policy of the employers had been to enforce the retirement of employees when they reached the pensionable age of 60 in the case of women and 65 in the case of men. In conformity with that policy they had ceased to employ the employee after she attained the age of 60 and before the age of 65.

The employee claimed that she was the victim of discrimination on the ground of sex and that she was entitled to damages under the 1975 Act because the retirement age forced on her had been rendered unlawful by section 6(2).

The employers admitted that the employee had been discriminated against by dismissal but denied that the discriminatory dismissal had been unlawful because, by section 6(4) of the Act, section 6(2) did not apply

"to provision in relation to death or retirement".

The Equal Pay Act 1970, as subsequently amended (in Schedule 1 to the 1975 Act), introduced into every contract of employment of a woman an equality clause. By section 6(1A)(b) of the 1970 Act an equality clause "shall not operate in relation to terms related to death or retirement, or to any provision made in connection with death or retirement".

Thus the 1970 Act did not prohibit an employer from contracting with men and women on terms that women had to retire at 60 and men at 65. The employers' contracts were determinable at any time by notice on either side.

The employers, as a matter of policy, gave notice of determination to enforce retirement when women reached 60 and when men reached 65. The 1970 Act had therefore applied to the retirement.

The European Communities Act 1972 had accepted the supremacy of Community law under the Treaty of Rome and allied treaties. In September 1974 the Home Office had published a White Paper (Cmd 5724) entitled "Equality for Women" and had announced the intention of the Government to introduce a Bill providing for equal treatment.

The changes proposed had not included any change in section 6(4) of the 1970 Act. The Bill had been intended to prohibit discrimination against women where the discrimination resulted from policies and practices in industrial relations. The Bill and the 1970 Act had been intended to form part of a single code prohibiting many forms of discrimination but permitting discrimination in connection with retirement.

On February 10, 1975 the Council of Ministers had adopted the Equal Pay Directive (75/117/EEC), which had called on member states to put into force laws necessary to establish the principle of equal pay.

The Bill foreshadowed by the 1974 White Paper had been introduced as the Sex Discrimination Act 1975. The employers' policy of dismissing women at 60 and men at 65 had been discriminatory within section 6, but by section 6(4) subsections (1)(b) and (2) did not apply to provision "in relation to death or retirement".

On February 9, 1976 the Council of Ministers had adopted the Equal Treatment Directive (76/207/EEC) (OJ 1976 No L39 p40). The time limited for compliance expired on August 12, 1978.

Before that date the Government had taken no steps to repeal or amend section 6(4) of the 1970 Act or section 6(4) of the 1975 Act, and must have considered that those statutory exemptions from the prohibitions on discrimination were not incompatible with the Treaty or the Equal Pay Direc-

tive or the Equal Treatment Directive.

On December 19, 1978 the Council of Ministers had adopted a Social Security Directive (79/7/EEC) (OJ 1979 No 6 p24) which obliged member states to put into effect equal treatment for social security within six years, but by article 7: "This directive shall be without prejudice to the right of member states to exclude from its scope: (a) The determination of pensionable age for the purposes of granting old age and retirement pensions..."

In *Roberts v Cleveland Area Health Authority* (1979) ICR 558 the Court of Appeal upheld the decision of the Employment Appeal Tribunal that section 6(4) of the 1970 Act allowed discriminatory retirement ages. Finally, it was material to consider the circumstances in which the 1970 Act and the 1975 Act had been enacted.

If the Government had intended to sweep away the widespread practices of differential retirement ages, the 1974 White Paper would not have given a contrary assurance, and if Parliament had intended to outlaw differential retirement ages section 6(4) of the 1975 Act would have been amended accordingly.

The legality of discrimination between men and women with regard to retirement ages had been preserved by the 1970 Act had been directed or as a matter of practice to which the 1975 Act had applied.

The UK Government had considered that the Equal Treatment Directive did not prohibit discriminatory ages of retirement. The argument of the Government in *Marshall v Southampton and South West Hampshire Area Health Authority* (1986) QB 411 had been that the discrimination under Community law permitted in pensionable ages and extended to discrimination in retirement ages. That argument had been rejected by the Court of Justice of the European Communities.

The UK had then enacted the Sex Discrimination Act 1986, which had amended section 6(1A) of the 1970 Act and section 6(4) of the 1975 Act so as to render unlawful discriminatory retirement ages. That Act had not been retrospective and did not avail the employee.

Marshall's case had decided that the Equal Treatment Directive did not possess direct effect between individuals, so that an employee could not claim damages simply for its breach.

Nevertheless it was submitted that the employee was now entitled to damages because Community law required the 1970 and 1975 Acts to be construed in a way which gave effect to the Equal Treatment Directive as construed in *Marshall's* case.

Where an Act had been passed for the purpose of giving effect to an obligation imposed by a directive or other instrument of the Community, it was to be construed in conformity with the language of the Act was effective for the intended purpose. But the construction of a British Act was a matter of judgment to be determined by the British courts and to be derived from the legislation considered in the light of the circumstances prevailing at the date of the enactment.

The circumstances in which the 1970 and 1975 Acts were enacted were set out in the 1974 White Paper, in *Roberts v Cleveland Area Health Authority* (1979) ICR 558 and in the submission of the Government in *Marshall's* case. The facts had not been passed to give effect to the directive, and had been intended to preserve discriminatory retirement ages.

The employee had relied on the speech of Lord Diplock in the *British Rail Engineering Ltd v British Railways Board* (1983) 2 AC 751, 770-771 where he had expressed the view that section 6(4) of the 1975 Act could and should be construed consistently with the 1979 Treaty of Rome, the Equal Pay Directive and the Equal Treatment Directive.

In the present appeal the House had had the advantage, not available to Lord Diplock, of all arguments and had satisfied his Lordship that the 1975 Act had not been intended to give effect to the Equal Treatment Directive as subsequently construed in *Marshall's* case, and that the words of section 6(4) were not reasonably capable of being limited to the meaning ascribed to them by the employee.

Section 2(4) of the European Communities Act 1972 did not constrain a British court to distort the meaning of a statute in order to enforce against an individual a directive which had no direct effect between individuals.

The Treaty of Rome did not interfere and the European Court of Justice in *von Colson and Kamann v Land Nordrhein-Westfalen* (Case 14/83) ([1984] ECR 1891) did not assert power to interfere with the interpretation of national legislation by national courts.

The employer could not reasonably be expected to appreciate the logic of Community legislators in permitting differential retirement pension ages but prohibiting differential retirement ages. The employer was not liable to the employee under Community law. No liability attached under British law. The appeal should be dismissed.

Lord Keith, Lord Brandon, Lord Oliver and Lord Goff agreed.

Solicitors: Bindman & Partners, Barlow Lyde & Gilbert.

Burton and Another v Secretary of State for Transport

Before Lord Justice Purchas, Lord Justice Woolf and Lord Justice Mann [Judgment February 10]

Legislation was urgently required to prevent the unwarranted delay in implementing approved trunk road schemes that could be caused by objectors, without proper grounds, seeking to challenge in the High Court the decisions taken by the Secretary of State for Transport.

The Court of Appeal so stated in dismissing an appeal brought under the provisions of section 10 of the Highways Act 1980 by the applicants, Mr Robert Lingen Burton and Mr Robert Freeman, from the decision of Mr Graham Eyre, QC, who, sitting as a judge of the Queen's Bench Division, refused to quash orders authorizing the construction of parts of the Shrewsbury by-pass.

Mr Philip Newman for the applicants; Mr Duncan Ouseley for the secretary of state.

LORD JUSTICE WOOLF said that the applicants, statutory objectors who had appeared at the 1984 public inquiry into the by-pass, owned land affected by the proposals for the route. Following a four-week inquiry, an inspector had recommended the urgent implementation of the Department of Transport's proposals.

In April 1985 the secretary of state accepted in general the inspector's recommendations and stated that the by-pass would provide wide benefits in the area and improve the environmental conditions in Shrewsbury.

Two and a half years had elapsed. The delay was caused by these proceedings. It was to be deplored especially because the proceedings were manifestly without merit.

The application to the High Court challenging the validity of the secretary of state's orders was made under the provisions of Schedule 2 to the 1980 Act. It was to be noted that although the public could be grievously inconvenienced by non-implementation of a road scheme, that Act contained no requirement for any leave to be obtained for making such applications as was required by Order 53, rule 3 of the Rules of the Supreme Court for applications for judicial review.

Moreover, there was no requirement to leave an appeal to the Court of Appeal from the judge's decision.

The only procedural remedy available to minimize the inevitable consequences of such actions was an application to strike out the notice of motion as being an abuse of the court's process under Order 54, rule 1(2) and Order 8, rule 3(2).

However, an applicant could set out "grounds" or purported

grounds, for making his application which failed to reveal whether there was any merit in it. That had happened in this case.

Although the notice of motion set out grounds purporting to give particulars it did not do so. It did not comply with the terms of Order 94.

Such grounds should identify the actual points relied on in terms which enabled the secretary of state to ascertain the case he had to meet and whether or not it had any merit. If that was not done then consideration should be given to applying to strike out an applicant's notice of motion.

And in considering any such application the courts should bear in mind that Parliament, in paragraph 6 of Schedule 2, had down a six-week time limit for making applications to the High Court. Parliament thus intended

such applications to be dealt with expeditiously: the courts should deal firmly with applications designed to frustrate that intention.

The complaints here raised gave the impression of being an excuse seized on solely to delay the implementation of the road improvements. The appeal should be dismissed.

But it should be added that despite the strong criticism of the way that the applications were made, neither counsel nor solicitors for the applicants had intended to abuse the process of the court.

LORD JUSTICE MANN, agreeing, said that he had little doubt that had the appeal been subjected to a filter, such as existed for judicial review cases, it would not have passed through. The appeal would have been given its *quies* long ago.

Association ban on amateur tennis player was not unlawful

Currie v Barton and Another

Before Lord Justice O'Connor, Lord Justice Lloyd and Lord Justice Nicholls [Judgment February 11]

The committee of a county tennis association was not in breach of the rules of natural justice in deciding to ban a player from the amateur county team without first inviting him to appear before the committee to put his side of the story in person.

The Court of Appeal so held in dismissing an appeal against a decision of Mr Justice Scott given on March 26, 1987, (*The Times* March 27) that the plaintiff, Ian George Currie, had failed to establish that the committee of Essex County Lawn Tennis Association had acted in breach of the rules of natural justice in banning him from playing in the county team for three years. The defendants were Donald James Barton, chairman of the association, and Clive Rippon, its secretary, sued on behalf of the committee of the association.

Mr Gilbert Gray, QC and Mr Edward Grayson for the plaintiff; Lord Irvine of Lairg, QC and Mr Andrew Hillier for the association.

LORD JUSTICE O'CONNOR said that at a tennis match in November 1982 the plaintiff refused to play and walked out after the Essex captain informed him that he would be playing number 5 in the Essex team.

The plaintiff discovered from press reports that he could be facing a ban as a result and wrote a long letter to the secretary setting out his version of events and contesting the ranking.

At a committee meeting in December the captain reported on the match and on the

plaintiff's behaviour. The committee decided to ban him for three years with the possibility of reinstatement after 24 months.

The ban meant no more than that the plaintiff would not be selected to play for the county. There was no payment for playing in the county team so there was no resulting financial loss. It did not affect the plaintiff's job as a tennis professional, which involved coaching, sponsorship and participating in tournaments where prize money could be earned.

The plaintiff's case was that the committee acted in breach of the rules of natural justice when it made the decision to ban him. He was not informed that his case was to be considered. He was not called before the committee to put his version of events but the captain was present giving his report on the match.

It was probably correct in law that the association qualified as a domestic tribunal. The court would only interfere with the decisions of such a body when the person affected was in a contractual relationship with it or when the decision resulted in an unreasonable restraint on that person's capacity to earn a living.

His Lordship did not think it was necessary to go further than the recognized categories.

Essex County Lawn Tennis Association was an unincorporated association. Its membership consisted mainly of other tennis clubs in Essex, which were other unincorporated associations.

The plaintiff was a member of one such affiliated club, and it was argued that being a member of that club put him in a direct

Last day to win a trip to Seoul

The Times today prints the final part of its exciting competition for the sporting trip to a lifetime - a week for two at the Summer Olympic Games in Seoul in September.

Our competition is supported by Grant Thornton, the national firm of chartered accountants, which is an official sponsor of the 1988 British Olympic team.

For the winning entry there will be these luxury prizes:

Return air fares from London to Seoul.

Seven days' accommodation, with meals, at a top hotel in Seoul.

A pair of event tickets for five days at the Games, provided in conjunction with Sportsworld, the official ticket and tour agent.

Today, we print the final set of four questions, and repeat questions one to eight.

To enter, study the questions below, write your answers on the entry form. When your entry is



complete, add your name and address on the form, and send it to: Grant Thornton Olympic Competition, Sports Department, The Times, PO Box 481, Virginia Street, London E1 9BD.

1) Name the last British woman skier to win a solo Olympic gold medal.

2) Who were the riders who last won an Olympic bobsleigh title for Britain?

3) Both parents of a present English League footballer won Olympic medals. Give the family's surname.

4) The approximate cost of sending Britain's team to the Olympic Games this year is £2.5 million. What was the corresponding approximate cost in 1936?

5) Name the all-time highest-placed British woman skier in Olympic Alpine racing.

6) The same coach prepared John Curry in 1976 and Robin Cousins in 1980 to win their Olympic skating gold medals. What is his name?

7) Who was the British competitor awarded an Olympic gold medal after being disqualified in his final?

8) Who was the most recent member of the British royal family to win Olympic colours?

9) Name the coxswain who steered the British rowing eight to an Olympic silver medal in spite of one of his rowers losing his seat during the final.

10) How many Olympic medals has Sebastian Coe won?

11) Name the three British swimmers to have won postwar Olympic gold medals using the same racing stroke.

12) The most successful Olympics financially were those staged in Los Angeles in 1984. What was the approximate profit?

The winner will be the sender of the first all-correct entry drawn from all those received by the closing date, Friday, February 19. Employees of Times Newspapers Ltd, Grant Thornton and Sportsworld and their relatives are not eligible for entry. No correspondence. The Sports Editor's decision is final.

ENTRY FORM

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

TELEPHONE _____

ANSWERS

1. _____

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TODAY'S FIXTURES

7.30 unless stated
Barclays League
Fourth division
Stockport v Bolton
SUNDAY MORNING COMBINATION North v South.

OTHER SPORT

ATHLETICS: Inter Services cross-country championships (at Aldershot, 2.0).
BASKETBALL: Carlsberg League: Livingston v King's Lynn; Leicester v Portsmouth.
BOWLS: Chorlton v Cambridge (at Oxford).
INDOOR CRICKET: Webster's Tankard: Walsall v Nottingham North (at 8.30).

SPORT ON TV

BASKETBALL: US college team Carolina v UCLA (at Los Angeles).
CRICKET: First day of the first Test match between New Zealand and England (at Christchurch).
CALGARY '88: Preview of the Winter Olympics, BBC2, 7.10 p.m.
DARTS: The 1987 world pool championship from The Paddocks, Canary Islands, ITV, 11.30 p.m.
SPORT ON FRIDAY: Motor Sports: The race for the World Endurance Championship of the Games, BBC2, 2.25.

WINTER OLYMPIC GAMES: REDESIGNED MOUNT ALLAN COURSE OUT OF FAVOUR WITH BOYD AND MULLER BUT NOT WITH SLALOM EXPERTS

Zurbriggen takes to twisting downhill like champion-elect



Calgary (Agence) - Pirmin Zurbriggen, of Switzerland, emerged as the favourite for the downhill race here, the opening Alpine event of the Winter Olympics, by setting the fastest time of 2:03.58, followed by the Austrian, Anton Steiner, in 2:03.59, Müller with 2:04.23, Luc Alphand, of France, in 2:04.42, and Aleksander Solberg, of Norway, in 2:04.99, and Felix Beck, of Canada, placed eighth in 2:05.00.

The training times confirmed that this was a course for those who turn well as opposed to the gliders, such as Müller and Boyd, who use their strength and weight to remain for long stretches in the tuck position.

Zurbriggen's time of 2min 2.64sec was three-quarters of a second faster than another of the Swiss team, Daniel Mahrer, who clocked 2:03.39.

But there were grumbles from other competitors, including Rob Boyd, Canada's favourite, who finished a disappointing 25th. The exposed top ridge was "twisty and turny, with hard snow, and it's quite rough," he said. Boyd's view was that the course designer, Bernhard Russi, the 1972 Olympic downhill champion, had revamped the top to make it more twisting, "probably because he doesn't have to run it".

Another critic was Peter Müller, world champion last year, and a teammate of Zurbriggen, who was fifth fastest. He described the top section, radically changed by shifting lorries of dirt and

boulders to make it steeper, twistier and more difficult, as "more like a giant slalom. I prefer a true downhill," he said. Last winter, Müller won the World Cup downhill here before the first 200 yards of the course were changed.

The United States is also putting preparation for victory first. Their women figure skaters, including Debi Thomas, will get to Calgary after the Games start, check in and then fly home to continue training.

● SASKATOON: Brilliant goaltending by Andy Moog, who stopped 28 shots, helped the Canadian national ice hockey team to a 3-2 victory over the Soviet Union.

Exodus from village

Calgary (Reuter) - Top Alpine skiing teams have rejected Olympic village hospitality for plush hotels closer to the slopes. The "retaways" include the Swiss and their world champions, Pirmin Zurbriggen and Maria Walliser, the Italians and their slalom sensation, Alberto Tomba, the Austrians and even the host nation, Canada.

All say the three-hour round trip by road from the main Calgary Olympic Village to the ski slopes 90km away at Nakiska puts too much strain on their media hopefuls in the Games' premier sport.

"The most important thing for the athletes is not to have to

travel long distances. There would certainly be problems if we stayed in Calgary," Roland Schaefer, the Swiss coach, who has booked his team into a luxury mountain hotel, commented.

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Up-in-the-air favourite: Zurbriggen had the golden look in Calgary's first training run

South Korean issues threats

COMMENTARY

David Miller
Chief Sports Correspondent

even at the mid-morning breaks during last year's Commonwealth Prime Ministers' conference in Vancouver, the order was for 46 coffees and one tea.

Mrs Thatcher is very much on her own. This intangibility, whatever its arguable economic justification in favour of black South Africans and the stability of the southern Africa region, makes Mrs Thatcher and Birmingham, the least favourite among the candidates for 1996 with Third World IOC members. The candidates are likely to include Athens, Toronto, Brisbane or Melbourne, Minneapolis-St Paul, Belgrade and Beijing.

Nevertheless, Denis Howell, who is here with a small delegation maintaining a Birmingham presence, is frustrated by the British Olympic Association's delay in nominating its candidate.

"It's like fighting any marginal seat," Howell says. "You need to work on gaining the individual vote. While Toronto can have 100,000 votes passing through, on their way to or from Calgary, we cannot do the same with them passing through London. Time is important." Before the decision in 1986 in Lausanne, when Barcelona was awarded the 1992 Games, Birmingham had 46 IOC members inspecting their project, but still received only eight votes.

That was a reflection of the boycott of the Commonwealth Games in Edinburgh and must seriously question the city's prospects again. But Howell says: "We do not put forward Birmingham as a candidate solely with the idea of winning in 1996, but in the concept that Birmingham is a realistic long-term capability of staging the Games."

The irony is that Birmingham is heavily committed to the anti-apartheid principle and is Britain's most integrated and multi-racial city. It is further ironic that the BOA was trying to resist Birmingham's successful application last year to stage the 1991 session.

The BOA will decide its candidate for 1996 in May, the

other cities in contention being Manchester and Glasgow. Yet neither city can raise the capital investment necessary out of public funds, and would be hard pressed to do so from the private sector.

Mary Glen Haig, a member of the IOC, says: "What is needed is an initiative by the Government, to demonstrate that Britain as a nation wants the Games. That would make it easier to raise funding from major industry and commerce."

Apart from the political problem for Britain, the other handicap, for any European or Far East candidate, is the United States television rights fee, which is so much larger in the western rather than eastern or southern hemisphere. Toronto, for the Summer Games, and Seoul, for the 1994 Winter Games, have a distinct financial appeal.

Because of this geographical financial imbalance, Howell wrote to Juan Antonio Samaranch before the decision on 1992, to suggest that the television rights fees should be pooled over a cycle of three Olympic Games. Samaranch has not responded to Howell's letter of 18 months ago.

Right now it feels good.

Canada's reject makes the top grade in British colours

Back home for Lumby

From Chris Moore, Calgary

Apart from the Canadians themselves, no one will feel more at home during the Winter Olympics in Calgary than Britain's top woman downhill skier and giant-slalom champion, Wendy Lumby.

The bubbly skier, aged 21, was born and raised in the city, and for three years was a member of the Canadian national ski squad before her switch to the British team.

Her parents, who adopted her when she was three weeks old, still live in Calgary, where they emigrated from England in 1959. Her father, a professor in physical education at Calgary University, is also a member of the Olympic Games Committee.

To meet the residential qualifications needed to acquire her British passport, Lumby has spent much of the last two years living with her grandmother in Leicester. "It was the biggest decision of my life when I made up my mind to quit racing with the Canadians, but I've never regretted it," she said.

"I've achieved my ambition of competing in the Olympics, and now I want to do it. Right now it feels good."

"My dream, of course, is to win a medal in the downhill, super-G or combined. As Calgary is my home town, there's nothing else that could top that. But I would still be more than happy to get a top-10 finish. I know a lot of people who are working on and around the Olympic course so I will have them to rely on."

Her decision to turn her back on the Canadian team followed a difference of opinion with the national coach. "He just didn't figure me a downhill skier," Lumby said. "He thought I was better suited for the giant-slalom and slalom. But when I raced in the world junior championships four years ago I finished fifth in the downhill and beat all the other Canadian girls."

Increasingly frustrated at not being selected for the international team, she "sat down with Mum and Dad and we had a long talk about it. I didn't feel I was getting anywhere with the Canadian team and that's when we first started talking about switching to the British team."

"It was my decision, but they have been behind me all the way. It cost them \$15,000 to keep me on the circuit last season, and I guess about the same this season."

"The main difference for me is that I am now in a team competing against the biggies. My form is improving all the time and right now I'm really excited about going back to Calgary for the Olympics, especially as all my family will be involved. My mother is one of the starting referees for the skiing events, so I'll be seeing her every day, and both my brother and sister will be forerunners on the mountain."

Lumby: tackling the biggies

YACHTING

Collision costs Childerley

By Barry Pickthall

Stuart Childerley's chances of winning the Finn Gold Cup in Brazil this week were unfortunately wiped out when the young Olympic hopeful collided with another competitor while vying for the lead during Wednesday's penultimate race.

The mistake and resulting 720-degree penalty turn cost him 15 places, and Childerley, who has been suffering from a bout of "Rio's Revenge" all week, did not have the strength to pull himself back up the fleet. Going into the last race on Wednesday afternoon, the world championship was within the grasp of just two men, the overall leader, Thomas Smidt, of West Germany, and the Dutchman, Roy Heiner.

But the final encounter was marred, like many of the other heats at the Bella, by dramatic windshifts which caught out all the leading contenders, including Childerley, who finished the race 36th for sixth overall.

If the winds provided Smidt with an unopposed victory, they also benefited Launceston Crispin, of Britain, who rose from ninth place to third on the last day.

RESULTS: South race 1. B. Lohmeyer (USA); 2. S. Westergaard (Den); 3. R. Heiner (Neth); British positions: 20. S. Childerley; 29. L. Crispin; Seventh race: 1. L. Lawrence (Fiji); 2. P. Vidy (Den); 3. Crispin; Other British: 28. Childerley; Overall: 1. T. Smidt (West); 48. Jones; 2. Heiner; 50.4. S. Anderson (Can); 74.7. British placings: 6. Childerley; 16. Crispin.

New tack on record claims

Following the false claims of the French circumnavigator, Philippe Monnet, to a one-stop round-the-world record, which were exposed in *The Times* two weeks ago, the International Yacht Racing Union (IYRU) is considering setting up a department to monitor and ratify all future record claims (Barry Pickthall writes).

At present, records are logged independently by Sir Peter Johnson, the Offshore Racing Council's keeper of records, and by Group Captain "Nobby" Clark on an amateur basis from Press reports and hearsay.

But Mike Evans, the Union's director general, said yesterday: "The sport is now very professional and this latest controversy has highlighted the need for the IYRU to formalize these records."

RUGBY UNION: HOLDERS EMPLOY AN INTERNATIONAL BLEND FOR FOURTH ROUND CUP MATCH

Quiet achievement for lowly Albion

By David Hands, Rugby Correspondent

Sandwiched away near the end of the draw for the fourth round of the John Player Special Cup, most of the odds and a few had been used up by the time Plymouth Albion emerged, paired with Saracens. We recognized the two heavyweights, Leicester-Bath and Gloucester-Wasps; we enjoyed the prospect of Harlequins at Berry Hill and Waterloo at Gordon Leake.

Yet down there, waving the banner for the "grinding" west country, after all, Bath, Bristol and Gloucester are nearer London than they are to Plymouth, the Albion have been quietly enjoying a successful season. It has brought them 20 victories and second place in the national third division, as well as the defeat of Northampton, of the second division, in the last round of the cup.

Nor is this a flash in the pan. Plymouth feel that, with Nuneaton, they were among the leaders in forming what was called the C two years ago and it is, therefore, a matter of pride to finish as high in the league as possible, even if there is no promotion this season. They have been doing so with a team including players such as the experienced Gary Lovell, who first played for Devon in the early 1970s, at lock, and the fresh-faced Martin Livesey (a divisional replacement this season), who travels back from his teaching job in Basingstoke, to play for them.

They embrace service players, such as Bob Penfold and Mark Hewitt, both of the Royal Navy, and Chris Hocking, the Cornish farmer who, in the view of Roger Pickering, Plymouth's chairman of selectors, is as good a loose-head prop as any in the country. Since Pickering played at scrum half for England in 1967-68 and is, in addition, a realistic Yorkshireman (and contemporary at Bradford of Geoff Cooke, the present England team manager) his opinion is not to be lightly dismissed.

It is one of England's sustained problems that many good players, because they live and train in the geographical extremes, out of the orbit of the so-called first-class clubs, may be passed over for consideration at representative level.

As Dudley Wood, the Rugby Football Union secretary, acknowledged only this week, for such players there is only the

county championship which is why that competition still has a relevant part to play, as an adjunct to but not battling against, the RFU's other competitions.

"The league has made a difference to us, in terms of the interest local business take," Wally Foster, the Plymouth secretary, said. "We have made new friends with clubs like Wakefield, Vale of Lune, Fylde, where we would never have city of origin before. It costs us about £12,000 to travel each season and the sponsorship money nowhere near covers that, so we are grateful for the help that local companies provide."

It is a source of some regret to Plymouth that their success has not been matched by Exeter or the leading Cornish clubs in defeat for the last two years. They have been unbeaten in Devon and Cornwall, and have won the Devon Cup for the last five years. They have done so by forming what was called the C two years ago and it is, therefore, a matter of pride to finish as high in the league as possible, even if there is no promotion this season. They have been doing so with a team including players such as the experienced Gary Lovell, who first played for Devon in the early 1970s, at lock, and the fresh-faced Martin Livesey (a divisional replacement this season), who travels back from his teaching job in Basingstoke, to play for them.

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Redman to bolster Bath stock

By Gerald Davies

Nigel Redman has recovered from the rib injury he sustained last round against Lichfield and will play in Bath's side against Leicester at Welford Road tomorrow in the fourth round of the John Player Special Cup (David Hands writes). He will make up an all-international second row since Bath have preferred Cronin to Morrison, the England under-23 lock.

Redman will jump at the front of the lineout with Cronin in the middle. Otherwise Bath are at full strength with the exception of their long-term casualties, Barnes and Martin.

Gloucester retain the side that lost to Bristol last weekend for their cup match against Wasps but Bristol themselves have to make two changes for the home match with Richmond. Phillips, their burly prop, broke a thumb against Gloucester and will be out for six weeks while Collings, the No. 8, suffered bad contusions to the neck and may be missing for a month.

Hickey comes into the front row and Crane joins the back row. Bristol will also be pleased to see their internationals, Webb and Harding, whose appearances since November can be counted on the fingers of one hand. Skinner, the England flanker, has recovered from a shoulder injury and will play for Harlequins at Berry Hill. But the London club must give Mullins, their prop, a fitness test.

Divisional matches at both 16-group and 16-group level have fallen victim to the gales and floods. Only the 16-group match between South-east and South and South-west, surviving after being switched to Sunday from Beckenham to Swindon. The South-East won 16-11.

South-east now meet the North tomorrow at Loughborough GS and Sinderford RFC faces South and South-west v Midlands on Sunday.

Silcoates have enjoyed a magnificent season, their best for 25 years. Their victory against Leeds GS (10-8), took their record to 18 wins against a single point defeat by St Peter's, York, scoring 418 points and conceding 139.

St Edwards, Liverpool, celebrating their golden jubilee, are

Stability at home is key for Wales

By Gerald Davies

There is an air of optimism as to what the rest of the season may hold for Wales. The victory at Twickenham last weekend makes Wales the first of all the countries so far to break the sequence of home wins in the championship. There is optimism, too, for the manner in which it was achieved.

Even at this early stage, therefore, it should put them in an advantageous position. It should do so but such advantages have been won away from home in the recent past only to be lost on their own patch in Cardiff.

Whether it be at international or club level, it is the consistency of performance at home, however, that lays the foundation for success. It is from here that confidence first grows. Because of the very clear advantage it gives, the first objective of every team should be to make certain of success in the home matches. Initially, any away win should be thought of as simply a bonus. It is no bad premise from which to start.

So, what of Wales now with such a bonus already in hand? The recent past, however, will give them no comfort. If it is only England who have not won at the Arms Park in the 1980s, the other countries have won twice each.

Up until 1982, when Scotland won a decisive victory, France were the last to win in Cardiff in

CYCLING

Doyle rival opts for retirement

By Peter Bryan

Hans-Henrik Oersted, the Danish professional, who took Tony Doyle's world pursuit title from him last year in Vienna, has retired at the comparatively early age of 33.

His surprise announcement makes him the third leading rider to quit the sport this week: the two others, Bernard Vallet, the Tour de France chaser, and Francesco Moser, the world one-hour record holder at both altitude and sea level, had planned their departure months ago.

Doyle does not believe that the absence of Oersted will make his task to regain his title this year any easier. "I shall approach the world championships differently, with a new training schedule, and will go away on holiday next week without a bike for the first time in 10 years," he said.

Doyle, who ends his winter season this weekend in Dortmund with an omnium, was back in England to attend the presentation of the new Ever Ready-Ammaco Team.

The six-man squad includes three first-year professionals: Allan Miller, the New Zealand item world junior champion in 1983, and Gary Colman and Jon Walshaw, of Britain. The team is completed by Steve Joughin and Phil Bayton.

ICE HOCKEY

Wasps win on penalties

Durham Wasps, with their third win in as many years, won the Castle Eden cup on their own on Wednesday, beating their local rivals, Whitley Warriors, by the cruellest means possible: on penalty shots (Norman de Mesquita writes).

The teams shared two goals in the first period, 10 in the second and six in the third. Not until the 45th minute, with five minutes to go was there more than one goal in it, and then the Warriors scored twice in the last three minutes to send the game into a scoreless overtime.

Six players of each side then embarked on a series of penalty shots. They managed one each: Breck for Durham and Babcock for Whitley in the first round, then Breck scored his second, but Chabot missed.

Dimlington, Sheffield lost their first two matches to Doncaster, Hallcross (3-12) and Mount St Mary's (3-10) and have not lost since. They scored 522 points, conceding only 38 and their record reads: played 19, won 16, lost three.

● Both the Wellington schools - of Somerset and the College in Berkshire - have come through to the second round of the inaugural *Daily Mail* schools cup for under-15 teams.

SCHOOL RUGBY DRAW. Durham v Rossall (Lanc); Bradford GS (York) v Seaford; Old Swinford Hospital (Worcestershire) v Adams GS (Salop); Manor (Notts) or Stamford v Highfields (Derby); St Joseph's College (Eastern Cheshire) v RGS Gillingham (Surrey); Gillingham (Surrey) or St John's College (Durham) v Richard Hale (Herts); Wellington College (Berks) v Bishop Wordsworth's GS (Wilt); Wellington (Somerset) v Richard Lander (Cornwall) or Graveney College (Devon).

To be played by February 28.

ATHLETICS

Ailing indoor scene gets boost from Olympic champion

From Pat Butcher, Athletics Correspondent, New York

Sebastian Coe, by running 3,000 metres at the Meadows tomorrow evening, will put some much-needed life back into the United States indoor scene.

North Americans, like Australians and New Zealanders, have long been used to travelling to Europe to get their summer competition, and the money that goes with it. But, hamstrung by the weaker dollar, North American indoor promoters are finding that their own top athletes, such as Ben Johnson, Carl Lewis and Butch Reynolds, are being tempted to Europe in winter as well.

Johnson, who is reputed to have earned more than \$30,000 for just over six seconds of sprinting in Madrid a fortnight ago, is scheduled to have his fourth European race this weekend, and Lewis had his only winter competition in Germany two weeks ago.

Reynolds is competing at the Meadows, which is at East Rutherford, New Jersey, across the Hudson River from New York City. But it is his only race on the Mobil indoor grand prix circuit here. He preferred to run in Glasgow last week rather than in the celebrated Millrose Games at Madison Square Garden.

According to Brad Hunt, Reynolds's new agent, it is not simply a matter of less European currency buying more dollars, although that does figure highly in his estimation, since, surprisingly, the most that anyone can command here is \$15,000 per appearance. "It's also the 200 metres and have great surfaces. You can't do good times on American tracks, made of boards, which are 10 and 11 laps to the mile," Hunt said.

"That's why Butch went to Glasgow last week. He went to find out how Schönblick runs such fast times indoors. Butch did 45.20. He got disqualified for stepping on the line, but he was happy knowing he can do the same sort of time as Schönblick. The East German ran a world record of 45.04sec the night before Reynolds's Glasgow time."

Bob Hersch, the Millrose announcer and a member of the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) technical committee, expressed a general concern among officials and promoters here at what he called "the increased attention that European promoters are paying to indoor track, which used to be

an American domain. As capitalists, we have to say competition is fair, but I'm concerned as an American and lover of the sport at the potential impact in this country if European indoor track really takes off."

It certainly seems to be moving in that direction with new meetings springing up in Spain and West Germany in particular, and Glasgow's new Kelvin Hall arena would attract sell-out crowds.

Which all suggests that a European indoor grand prix on the lines of the outdoor one, cannot be too far away. John Holt, the general secretary of the IAAF, said yesterday: "The marketing and competition working group have this on their agendas every year, and although there are no steps to bring the meetings together, we have asked for a report."

Linford Christie could meet Ben Johnson over 60 metres in an invitation meeting at Ghent, Belgium, next Wednesday. Johnson will run if he has recovered from injury.

HOCKEY

Titles at stake indoors

By Joyce Whitehead

The women's indoor championship national finals for schools, clubs and counties starts today at Crystal Palace and continue over three days.

St Julie's School, Liverpool, defend their title and Newlands School (Middlesex), Goswami School (Bristol), Arthroppe School (Doncaster) and King Edward VII (Melton Mowbray) have all been to the finals.

The counties' tournament will be interspersed with the finals stages of the schools event tomorrow while the county hold centre stage on Sunday.

The high-powered northern club, Highdown, have five international players and four of them - Linda Carr, Margaret Souvay, Lorraine Moxon and Jackie Crook - will play for Lancashire as well tomorrow. Clifton field two England indoor internationals, Denise Shorney and Samantha Wright, and one from Wales, Karen Price, in competition against eight other clubs including Winterton, Welwyn Garden City and the champions, Sutton Coldfield.

BOXING

Dickie is forced to vacate title

By Srikanth Sen, Boxing Correspondent

Kevin Taylor, the Central Area amateur champion, has vacated his title at the Alan Lido, Aberavon, on February 24. Robert Dickie, the champion, has been forced to drop out because of a hand injury.

John Morris, the secretary of the board, said: "Dickie has not defended the title for 16 months because of injuries received in a car crash and so when he damaged his hand we did not want the title to be held up any longer and nominated Taylor."

However, Morris said that the statutory six months' grace and most Dickie or Paul Hodgkinson when ordered. "It is a lively division and we want to keep the championship moving along," Morris said.

If, in the meantime, Dickie gets the vote to meet Jean-Marc Renard, of Belgium, for the vacant European title, Hodgkinson would almost certainly become the No. 1 challenger for the British title.

SWIMMING

Sponsor's £1.5m deal for ASA

By Roy Moor

The Trustee Savings Bank (TSB) has agreed to a £1.5 million sponsorship over the next three years for the ASA in England and Wales. The sponsorship will cover the promoting of the national short-course and long-course championships, the Master Circuit, the ASA's award scheme and the national schools championships.

In due course TSB hopes to include a major international invitation event in its annual programme. ASA officials will seek to agree a suitable date while in Bonn for the Arena meeting this weekend.

The West Germans are showing considerable interest in the return of Adrian Moorhouse to Bonn where Britain's European champion became the first break the minute for 100 metres breaststroke last year.

It is probably too much to expect a repeat performance from him this time because of the hold-up in his training camp in the year because of illness. Moorhouse says he will not know just how well he is racing until he dives in tonight's 50 metres breaststroke event.

One thing is certain: his arrival, Dmitri Volkov, of the Soviet Union, will be in top form. He recently showed when racing in Monte Carlo that he is likely to be a big threat to Moorhouse's bid for the Olympic title in Seoul.

FOOTBALL

Mulholland's chance to prove his ability

Non-League football by Paul Newman

Joe Mulholland, Burton Albion's trainer and coach, has been given the chance to prove his ability as a manager. After the departure of two managers in a month, Burton have put Mulholland in temporary charge and told him that the job can be his permanently if he can't improve the team's performance noticeably in the coming weeks.

After the euphoria surrounding their appearance in the FA Trophy final last May, Burton have had a traumatic season. They have had difficulties coping with the switch from the Northern Premier League to the Premier League - a move which they hoped would launch a campaign to reach the Football League within five years - and after a series of poor results Brian Fidler announced his resignation as manager at the turn of the year.

Vic Halom, the former Sunderland player and manager of Rochdale and Barrow, was appointed as Fidler's replacement but was dismissed within three weeks because of what Sam Brannington, the chairman, described as "disagreements over club policy".

Mulholland, who joined the club two years ago, inherits a team which has won only four of its last 24 league matches. Although in a mid-table position, Burton have played more games than every club below

them and are only seven points clear of the relegation zone. Half of the Wembley team have left, including Paul Bancroft, their inspirational midfielder player, who was sold to Kidderminster Harriers for £12,000 last month.

Brannington considered resigning himself, but said yesterday that the backing he had received from supporters and fellow directors had persuaded him to stay. He regrets Fidler's resignation but had no reservations about taking over what he described as "a substantial compensation" despite not having signed a contract.

"To start with he brought in a 33-year-old former League player, Steve Bates, on wages in line with the rest of the squad," Brannington said. "Not only would that have been disruptive, but we want to bring in younger men with potential for the future."

Malcolm O'Connor, of Hyde United, and Gary Buckley, of Chorley, have been added to the preliminary England semi-pro national against Wales at Rhyll on March 15.

A post-mortem has revealed that Steve King, the Chalfont St Giles goalkeeper who collapsed and died during a game at Northam last month, suffered a brain haemorrhage which could have occurred at any time.

Angell moves to Derby

Derby County have agreed to pay Cheltenham Town £45,000 for Brett Angell, who was released by Portsmouth on a free transfer last summer (Paul Newman writes). Angell, aged 19, will join the first division club after Cheltenham's FA trophy fourth round match against Bromsgrove Rovers on Sunday.

John Murphy, Cheltenham's manager, saw Angell playing as a defender in a six-a-side competition last year and signed him with the intention of converting him to a forward. He adapted quickly and has scored 26 goals for the GM Vauxhall Conference club this season.

Derby, who will pay Cheltenham a further £10,000 if Angell makes more than 10 league appearances and £25,000 if he plays in the England under-21 team, were one of several League clubs interested in signing him.

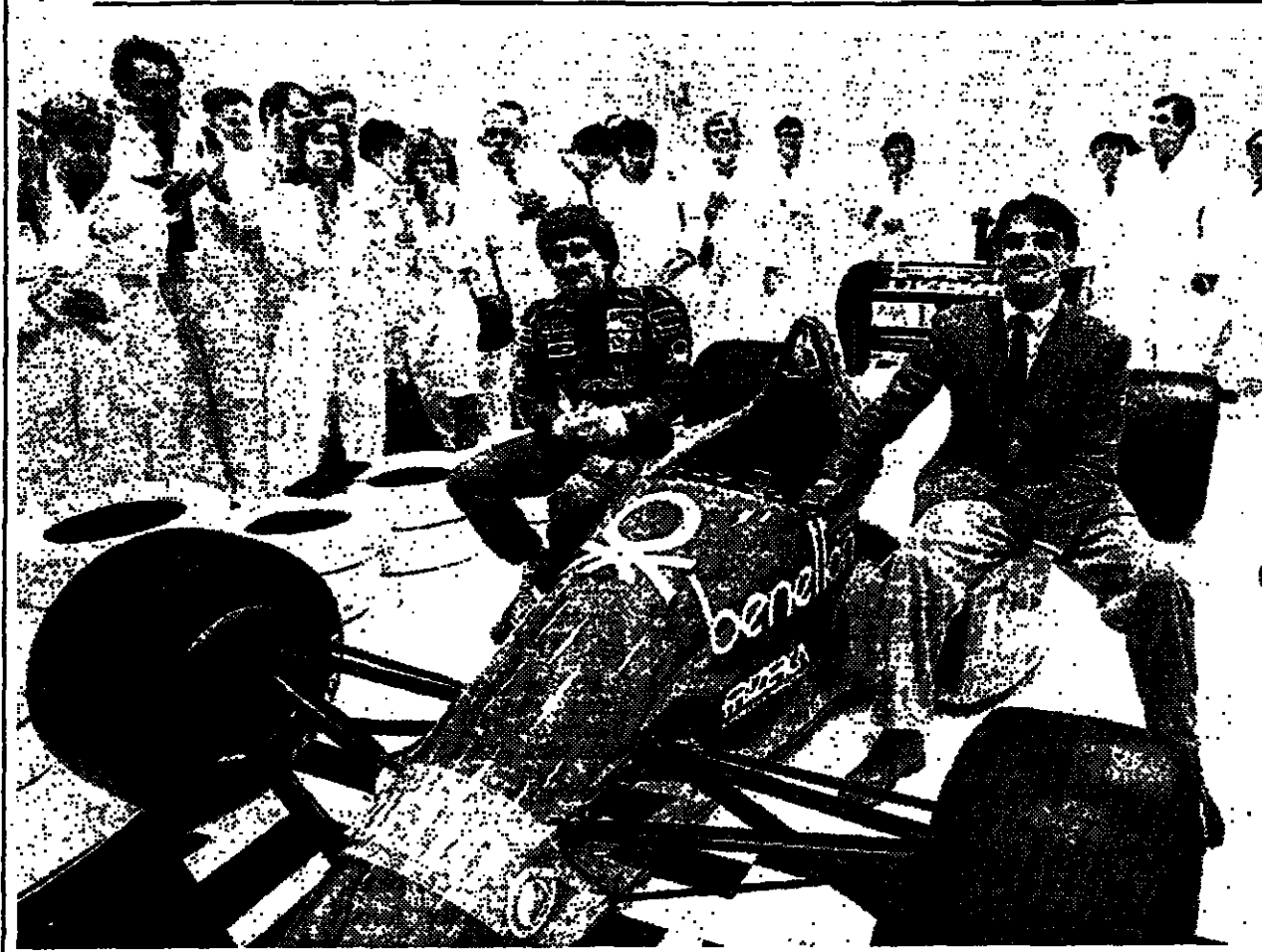
Market day at Shrewsbury

Shrewsbury spent £100,000 yesterday on two new players. The Shrewsbury United forward, Alan Irvine, aged 24, formerly of Crystal Palace, signed in a £40,000 deal and the balance went on Richard Pratley, aged 25, Derby County's central defender, who played a key role in their rise from third division to first. Both are expected to make their debuts at Shrewsbury United tomorrow.

Seventeen United have signed Peter Butler, Cambridge United's young midfielder player, for £75,000. He is expected to make his debut at Bristol Rovers tomorrow.

David Shearer, the Bournemouth forward, is to join Southend United for £15,000. If the deal goes through, Shearer will play against Leyton Orient tomorrow. He joined Bournemouth from Gillingham earlier this season for £20,000.

MOTOR RACING: A SERIOUS ENGINEERING MISSION LIES BEHIND A SHOWBIZ PRESENTATION



Thierry Boutsen and Alessandro Nannini: astride the Benetton Ford B188 they will be driving (Photograph: Harry Kerr)

Benettons launched in splutter and splash

By John Blunden

Benetton Formula, the Whitney-based Grand Prix team, have won the race to unveil the first all new Formula One car for the new season. The Benetton-Ford B188, the fourth car in as many years to be produced by the chief designer, Rory Byrne, has been built around the latest five-valve-per-cylinder Ford DFR engine. It was given a spectacular debut at Lincolnshire Stadium in London's Docklands yesterday against a background of splashing paint, explosions and stage smoke.

Once again, the Benettons, in their green, blue, red, yellow and black livery, promise to be the most colourful of all Formula One entries, but for all the outward display of showbiz this is a team embarked on a serious engineering mission.

Although Ford's director of motor-sport activities, Michael Krause, has predicted two or three grand prix victories for the team this year, the prime purpose in turning the backs on the turbo engine in its final season of eligibility is to accelerate development of the brand new Ford engine now taking shape.

WIMBLEDON

Woosnam left floundering

Hong Kong (AFP) - Ian Woosnam, of Wales, whose win here 11 months ago signalled the start of a phenomenal season in which he finished sixth in the world rankings, suffered an ignominious fall from grace yesterday when he struggled to a 79, eight strokes over par, in the first round of the Hong Kong Open.

David Feherty, of Northern Ireland, and Casey Nakama, of Hawaii, led the event over the Foulis course with totals of 67. Woosnam was uncomfortable with a new set of clubs that arrived on Tuesday. He was over par at seven holes, including three strokes over par at the 15th, where he took four putts.

"I will go back to the hotel and dream of shooting 65 to make the cut," Woosnam said after a three-hour practice session.

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GOLF

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Langer stands alone on the bridge

Honolulu - Bernhard Langer was hoping to show in the Hawaiian Open, which began here yesterday, that Europe's ascendancy can be maintained (John Ballantine writes). As the only member here of the victorious Ryder Cup team of 1987, he may look a bit like Horatio on the bridge but, should he do well, as he usually does at Waialae, the ranks of islanders will "scarce for lack of cheer".

Langer has been extremely popular in Hawaii since he first came over four years ago. Rank-and-file professionals from the United States have begun to realize in the last month that the US defeat in Ohio last September marked a realignment of power in the world game. Davis Love recalls that he and the younger Americans were "very upset at the loss".

Yet, with only four tournaments gone, there seems a new sense of confidence among Europeans after Faldo's third place at La Costa, Lyle's big win in Phoenix, Brown's solid play at Kapalua and the return of Beach on Sunday which ended when his back gave out.

The Challenge Cup plans of the St Helens coach, Alex Murphy, were thrown into some disarray yesterday when Andy Platt, the Saints and Great Britain international, was suspended for four matches for a high tackle in the match against Leigh. The suspension means that Platt will miss tomorrow's Silk Cut tie at Warrington and will also be unavailable for the third round match if St Helens win through.

Tony Cottrell, the Leigh forward, was suspended for two matches for kicking an opponent in the match against St Helens.

Malcolm O'Connor, of Hyde United, and Gary Buckley, of Chorley, have been added to the preliminary England semi-pro national against Wales at Rhyll on March 15.

Platt ban harms St Helens

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TENNIS

Currie has appeal overturned

By John Goodbody

Ian Currie, a professional player and case in the Appeal Court against the Essex County Lawn Tennis Association, which had barred him for three years from being picked for the county team.

In a significant decision for the future of sport, the Appeal Court decided that Currie could not claim that there had been an absence of natural justice because he had himself written a lengthy letter in 1982 to the Association protesting at the ban.

The ban was imposed following Currie's refusal to play in a match after a dispute with his county captain over ranking.

Currie claimed that the three-year ban was too long because he did not have the chance of being heard, but the Appeal Court decided that the letter was sufficient to put his case to the Association. However, the Appeal Court was not asked whether natural justice should apply to a player who had not written to a governing body.

One of the implications of the judgment was that an executive committee of a club or governing body has the right to order its members not to pick a player for disciplinary reasons.

In the High Court in March Mr Justice Scott decided that the rules of natural justice might be required when an adverse decision would bar a person from some "genuine" activity but that the ban was not to pick a player for disciplinary reasons.

Law report, page 30

Castle comes in from cold

Andrew Castle, the British No. 1, recorded a 7-6, 6-3 victory over Peter Dooher, the Australian who beat Boris Becker at Wimbledon last year, in the semi-final of the 17th men's indoor satellite tournament at Bramhall yesterday.

In the first set, Castle, feeling the cold, said to the umpire: "Keep an eye on the clock," implying Dooher was taking more than 30 seconds to serve.

Castle will face Bruce Mansson-Hing, who beat Olaf Rastano, of Finland. Castle last met Man-Son-Hing in 1984, when he was at Wichita State University and Man-Son-Hing was the No. 1 for California Irvine. Castle won 6-4 in the third set.

RESULTS: Semi-finals: A. Castle (GB) vs P. Dooher (Aus), 7-6, 6-3; B. Man-Son-Hing (US) vs O. Rastano (Fin), 6-4, 1-6, 6-3.

SNooker

Howard Kruger's Framework organization won its first major title when Dean Rees of Grimsby, beat Neal Foulds 9-5 in the final at the Corn Exchange, Ipswich, on Wednesday (Steve Acton writes). Reynolds received £15,000.

Reynolds said: "I always believed I was good enough to win a title but proving it was another matter. For some reason, however, I always believed this week I was going to win. I have been beaten more times than ever, up to six hours a day, I had become fed up with losing."

RESULTS: Final: D. Rees (GB) vs N. Foulds (Eng), 9-5. Group matches: First leg: D. Rees (GB) vs N. Foulds (Eng), 6-4, 1-6, 6-3; Second leg: N. Foulds (Eng) vs D. Rees (GB), 6-4, 1-6, 6-3.

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Clough is denied by Forest board

By Stuart Jones, Football Correspondent

Brian Clough was last night considering his future at Nottingham Forest. He was stunned and incensed to learn that the club's board of directors had surprisingly changed its mind and refused him permission to become the manager of Wales on a part-time basis.

The meeting at the City Ground yesterday morning had been considered little more than a formality. Clough's request to step into the international arena had already been granted, albeit reluctantly, by Maurice Roworth, the chairman. His colleagues were expected to give their approval.

Yet, after three hours of consideration, Roworth announced that the board felt that Clough would be unable to commit himself fully to both his club and his adopted country. The board had agreed unanimously that "managing Nottingham Forest is a full-time job".

Clough has been at the City Ground for 13 years, a record of longevity surpassed only by John Lyall, of West Ham United. Significantly, Doug Sharpe, a member of the Welsh negotiating committee, says that if Clough "wanted to become the full-time manager of Wales, we would consider it".

Alan Evans, the secretary of the Welsh FA, contradicted the view of his colleague, by



Roworth: implications

outcome of the meeting to his own notable failures in the transfer market. "This is as bad a decision as when I sanctioned the signings of Fashanu, Wallace and Ward, wasting £3 million of the company's money and nearly

sending the club to the wall," he said.

Clough, accustomed to having his own way, was so sure that he was on the verge of realizing one of his remaining ambitions that he readily published his thoughts yesterday in a local newspaper. To his embarrassment, they appeared in the Nottingham Evening Post.

In his column, he confirmed that he would have no hesitation in signing a new contract at Forest in four months. Previously, he had threatened that, if the board barred his path to the Welsh seat of power, he might retaliate by leaving the club he joined in 1975.

He also responded to the critics who had expressed doubts about his ability to fill both roles. Among those who had voiced such opinions were Bobby Robson and Billy Bingham, the respective managers of England and Northern Ireland, who would have become the closest of rivals.

It is believed that Forest's directors may have been influenced by the public statements of Robson and Bingham. There were echoes of their sentiments in Roworth's comments. "The board is aware that the time the manager dedicates to the club is total," he said.

"They felt that any further involvement could be only detrimental to the club as well as to Brian himself. They are mindful of the honour of managing a national side but, knowing him as they do, they felt he would throw himself completely into the challenge.

"In his case, it would have meant doing everything humanly possible to make sure that Wales qualify for the next World Cup finals which would have entailed additional hours of working. They do care very much about his welfare. Every member of the board analysed all the relevant implications."

The one they fear is that Clough will now carry out his threat. Having led Forest to the first division, to their only championship, to two European Cups and to two League Cups, Clough, aged 52, may choose to walk away from the men who have been brave enough to stand in his way.



Caught in a trap: a grim-faced Clough leaving the Nottingham Forest ground yesterday

England pick Jarvis to complete his recovery

From Alan Lee, Cricket Correspondent, Christchurch

Paul Jarvis spent much of the Christmas holiday in a hospital bed, anxious for the future and weak from the treatment of a condition which had left him with no feeling in the fingers of his bowling hand.

Yet only six weeks on, this young Yorkshireman was today making his first Test match appearance for England against New Zealand in Christchurch, his worst fears dispersed.

It used to be said that England's cricket could not aspire to strength unless they had an opening batsman and a fast bowler from Yorkshire. They have both now, but neither Jarvis nor his county colleague, Moxon, has enjoyed an easy passage to the top. Even yesterday, his place was threatened by Radford striking him painfully on the point of the left shoulder while he batted in the nets. After treatment, however, Moxon reported fit for duty to give not only England but Yorkshire cricket a further shot in the arm.

Sadly nothing went right for Jarvis during the first part of the winter. He injured his right shoulder during the World Cup and needed a course of injections. Then came the loss of feeling in his right hand. Whatever the cause, the numbness was sufficiently serious for him to be sent back to England in search of treatment, during the calamitous Faisalabad Test Match.

"I was encouraged to know that I was not the first cricketer to suffer from the condition," he recalled. "Simon Dennis, who also plays for Yorkshire, had it so badly that it affected both his hands and his feet, and he has fully recovered. I spent 11 nights in hospital. For eight hours each day, I had an intravenous drip in my arm, providing the relevant drugs. It made me feel lousy but selection for this game has made it all worthwhile."

Ever since he became the youngest man ever to play for Yorkshire, in 1981, there have been those in his county who have insisted that this North Riding boy is an England quick bowler of the future. Jarvis himself admits there was a time, when he might easily have sent his career hurtling off the rails. He was

growing dangerously interested in the temptations available to a young professional sportsman and his bowling was suffering. Two colleagues, Geoff Boycott and the current captain, Phil Carrik, came to his rescue.

"Both of them helped with my attitude. Phil is still there to encourage me but, in his last two years at the club, Geoff was very good. He told me that if I wanted to make the grade I should get to bed at night, eat the right sort of food and not drink so much beer. It was good advice and I appreciate it even more now."

Jarvis the bowler is largely self-taught. His stepfather still bowls left-arm spin at club level and is his most constructive critic, but he can name no one fast bowler who has unduly influenced him. It is both the discipline and the accuracy of Jarvis's bowling which has won him his chance. He has shown the ability to bowl, without fuss and without machismo flourish, whenever given the ball. Big occasions seem not to trouble him. The faith of men such as Boycott is close to justification.

Home pitch will suit Hadlee

England have enjoyed five crushing victories against New Zealand at Lancaster Park, Christchurch, where the first Test match starts today, but none can overshadow the humiliating defeat in only 11 hours 41 minutes, suffered when they last played there four years ago (Simon Wilde writes).

The conditions — usually of help to fast-medium bowlers — encouraged England to go into the match without a spinner, for only the third time in their history, but on a pitch ideal for seamers this was not the cause of their innings defeat.

That was due to inept bowling (Willis, the England captain, described it at the time as the worst performance he had seen in his 85 Tests), which allowed New Zealand to score 307, England mustered only 82 and 93. In that match Richard Hadlee scored 99 and took eight for 44, thirty-seven years earlier, his father, Walter, had scored New Zealand's first century on the ground against England.

In recent days Christchurch has been overcast and the pitch is reckoned to resemble a typically green one at Trent Bridge — which will suit Hadlee even more than it will England.

England's openers have a poor record at Christchurch — only three half-century stands in 11 Tests, while two batsmen, Sutcliffe for England and Morrison for New Zealand, have suffered the rare indignity of being dismissed with the first ball of the match.

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END COLUMN

Schools have grounds for gripe

By John Goodbody

The Inner London Education Authority (ILEA), which goes out of existence in 1990 and is desperately seeking cuts in expenditure, is now negotiating to sell one of the most lavish, publicly owned playing-fields in the capital to Tottenham Hotspur as a training ground.

Schoolmasters are worried that community use of Waltham Lodge, a 35-acre site in Walthamstow, will be drastically curtailed, although the League club says it plans to allow schools to use the facilities if it acquires the ground.

Waltham Lodge, which has five superb cricket squares, four hockey and seven football pitches, cricket nets and two pavilions, is one of the 10 satellite playing-fields round London bought by ILEA in the 1950s. But these have been underused since the Authority cut back on busying pupils out of the capital, because of costs and inefficiency, and also because of the swing away from team games in school curriculum time.

As *The Times* revealed last year, Priest Hill, a 90-acre site in Ewell, formerly owned by ILEA and now belonging to the London Residential Body, has been unused since 1962 and is up for sale.

Nigel Hook, senior technical officer with the Central Council of Physical Recreation, said yesterday: "It is a crazy situation that, with a desperate shortage of facilities, playing-fields are now being lost. Waltham is a prime site for children and it is absolutely essential that there are safeguards for the future."

Dave Williams, a physical education teacher at Hoxton House School, Hackney, who uses the centre, is organizing a petition protesting at its sale.

ILEA is close to completing a deal

"These are excellent facilities, particularly for cricket, which are not obtainable at Hackney Marshes, which are slightly closer to the school," he said. "There has been a shift in attitudes on encouraging team games since the McIntosh report last month but at the moment it is too early to see its results."

Jack Price, a PE master at Highbury Grove and former Tottenham player, said: "I do respect Spurs and know Haringey Schools use its indoor area at White Hart Lane. But the club is a business and I wonder how much money will be charged to use the training ground. I feel very sad about the whole thing."

A spokesman for ILEA pointed out that, apart from local clubs, only three secondary schools use the facilities and many others have opted to use grounds closer to their premises.

He said ILEA was not close to completing a deal but added, "If we can encourage close co-operation between the club and talented youngsters that would open up rather than diminish sporting opportunities. On the one hand ILEA seems to be criticized for overspending, and on the other, it is also criticized for reviewing expenditure."

Peter Barnes, the Tottenham Hotspur secretary, said that until the club had completed a deal it was impossible to talk about details of its use by the community. "But Waltham Lodge does offer a far larger site than we have here and would allow us to offer facilities to the community and schools. It is something in which the club is particularly interested."

Edinburgh was obliged to do as equestrian president on that occasion.

The Princess Royal is welcomed on her election by the majority of those in British sport, as well as by the IOC. She is there not as a figurehead, but in her own right as a former competitor and as an administrator with positive views and an alert sense of responsibility towards contemporary competitors.

Some of the controversy over the Princess Royal's nomination by Lord Luke arises because of alleged lack of consultation with BOA members. This was not obligatory, and it is an indication of the division of interests and personalities within the BOA that Charles Palmer, the chairman, was not a party to the discussion, and only learned of the Princess Royal's nomination after it had happened yesterday.

Other Games news, page 32

Brown in line for Welsh job

By Clive White

Once they have recovered from the shock and disappointment of being denied the immediate services of Brian Clough, the Football Association of Wales may turn their attention to another Englishman. In the event of their failing to lure Clough, Ken Brown, the former Norwich City manager, is expected to be offered the opportunity to manage the national side.

There should be no problems of availability with Brown, who since his surprise dismissal by the East Anglian club last November has been

largely unemployed. "I'm delighted to be even mentioned. It's an honour," Brown said. "I've no commitments and I'd love to be considered."

The FAW sub-committee, which was tasked to negotiate the hiring of Clough from Nottingham Forest, will reconvene next week to discuss a new successor to Mike England. Should it decide to go for the second choice, Brown will become only the second Englishman to guide Welsh fortunes.

While the players would naturally prefer to work with a fellow-Welshman, they could

not find a more popular leader than Brown, who is still sadly missed by the vast majority by Norwich supporters.

The FAW, with just £45,000 left in the kitty, was convinced that Clough was the man to lead them out of its poverty to a lucrative place in the 1990 World Cup Finals in Italy after four narrow failures to qualify for major finals. It was felt that the mere presence of Clough, albeit for only 30-day over the next 18 months, would have been enough to rekindle interest in the national team.

League assumes a defensive stance

By Stuart Jones

The Football League is to take "extreme" precautions to protect the event which is supposed to save the centenary party from collapsing into a total shambles. The Festival of Football at Wembley on April 16 and 17 will be an elite tournament for clubs and spectators alike.

So severe are the restrictions which will be imposed on the distribution of tickets that the weekend's activities could be staged in front of a ghostly audience. The one remaining highlight of the season's celebrations will not even be covered live on television.

Since the event takes place a fortnight before UEFA is to decide whether to reopen England's door to Europe, the

League intends to close Wembley's entrances to all potential hooligans. Only a few of the most committed supporters of each club will be allowed inside.

Andy Williamson, the League's press officer, admitted yesterday that "if there is any trouble, we will have failed in a marketing exercise which this event has provided for us. We are looking for a showpiece and that is why we have taken fairly extreme precautions."

Tickets will be available only to applicants who belong to an "identifiable group", such as the holders of a membership card or of a season ticket. Even they will not be guaranteed a place. The audience is to be limited to 80,000.

The 16 competing clubs will be supported, therefore, by no more than 5,000 of their own followers. Williamson recognises that "the profile of the crowd, which will include 10,000 spectators in a family enclosure, will contrast significantly with that of a regular game."

He estimates that "there will be only 20,000 spectators inside Wembley at any given moment on the Saturday". In spite of "a major marketing exercise on schools" for the Sunday, the final stages of the competition are also likely to be staged in an arena that appears to be almost empty.

Clubs will not be held responsible for disturbances as long as they can prove that they "took all reasonable precautions". Williamson

added: "We are promoting it, Wembley is providing the venue and the local police will be in charge of security."

It is believed that some qualifiers, fearing that they would be penalized should there be any trouble, were considering withdrawing from the competition. Half of the field, which is judged on the number of League points that have been accumulated since November 1, is now known.

Liverpool, Luton Town, Manchester United, Sheffield Wednesday and Wimbledon will represent the first division. Aston Villa, Blackburn Rovers and Leeds United are also through. They will be joined by three clubs from the first, one from the second division and two from each of the third and fourth.

Machin incurs fine

Mel Machin, the Manchester City manager, was yesterday fined £500 by a Football Association disciplinary committee after being found guilty of bringing the game into disrepute (Ian Ross writes).

Machin, who was fined £250 for a similar offence earlier in the season, was also ordered to give a written undertaking about his future conduct and warned that any further indiscretions could lead to him being banished from the touchline.

The incident in question happened during an FA Cup third round tie against Huddersfield Town at Leeds Road on January 9 when

Machin was alleged to have made abusive comments to a linesman.

FIFA, football's governing body, is being asked to rule whether Craig Johnston, of Liverpool, can play for Australia in the Bicentennial Gold Cup in July.

Arsenal's Littlewoods Cup semi-final, second leg, against Everton at Highbury will take place on February 24 — four days before Luton and Oxford meet in their second leg at Kenilworth Road.

SHERPA VAN TROPHY: Semi-final draw: Northern section: Burnley v Darlington or Huddersfield; Hartlepool v Preston or Mansfield; Southern section: Brighton v Notts County; Wolves v Aldershot or Torquay.

SPORT IN BRIEF

RAC drops Chester

The RAC, the governing body of motor sport in Great Britain, has severed links with Chester in a dispute over a debt of £26,000.

The city staged last year's Lombard RAC Rally and was set to stage this year's Norwich Union RAC Classic, an event designed for 750 classic cars built between 1905 and 1968 — but the refusal to honour a debt for Chester's liquidated marketing bureau has led the RAC to open its offers to other cities.

Longo anger

Grenoble (AFP) — Jeannie Longo, the French world champion, is ready to take the International Cycling Union (UCI) to court after its decision to strip her of five world track records for doping when setting the 3,000 metre record at Colorado Springs in October, although she was negatively tested when setting the previous four.



Scott: grand slam member

Off waiting list

The postponed Hospitals Cup match between Guy's and St Mary's, the holders, has been rearranged for Wednesday at Honor Oak Park.

Cash protest

Aberdeen (AFP) — Pat Cash, of Australia, and Kevin Curren, of the United States, will face an anti-apartheid protest at their tennis challenge match here tomorrow because of the pair's South African links.

Aouita scare

Rabat (Reuters) — Said Aouita, of Morocco, the world record-holder for the 1,500 and 5,000 metres, broke a toe in training yesterday and will be out for six weeks, missing an indoor athletics meeting at Zaragoza on February 24 to 26, but he expects to be fit for Seoul.

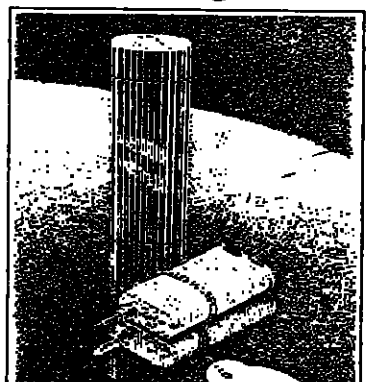
Negative reply

NG Hemel-Watford Royals, out of the running for honours in the Carlsberg basketball league, suffered a further setback yesterday when Kodak withdrew from long-term sponsorship talks with the club.

Scott retires

John Scott, Cardiff's former England No. 8 and the last playing member of the 1980 English grand slam pack, is retiring. His recent acquisition of a sports fitness centre in Cardiff restricts his time for the commitment needed for senior Rugby Union.

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